

Serving up holiday dinner



MELISSA MANGELSEN Fort Erie Times

Students at Crystal Beach Public School were treated with a traditional holiday dinner on Friday, something the school has been doing for six years now. Grade three students Madison Poitras and Maria Irwin get in line to dish up.

Speaking their mind

Students protest Bill 115 on Monday

3



Go Bills, eh?

Canadians flock to Orchard Park to catch NFL action

23



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KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Teachers, students and parents protesting Bill 115 in front of Garrison Road Public School on Tuesday.

'The teacher's don't want to demonstrate'

Kris Dubé
Editor

On Tuesday, teachers employed by the District School Board of Niagara turned in their lesson plan for a spot on the picket line. This was due to a one-day strike, contesting Bill 115.

At Garrison Road Public School in Fort Erie, teachers said they were unable to speak to the media but Dave Van Helvert, a parent and a husband of a teacher said there are some serious flaws in Bill 115 that allow the government too much clout on the matter.

"It doesn't even give the teachers a chance to speak to their employers and bargain a fair contract," he said. "There are so many clauses in Bill 115 that give the government powers they shouldn't have," he added.

Van Helvert, who is the Canada Customs and

Immigration union president at the Peace Bridge, said support is being shown for teachers across the entire country.

"We're supporting our teachers at the national level, not just in our communities."

He said teachers would rather be in the classroom teaching their students.

"The teachers don't want to demonstrate, they would rather see the union negotiate their contract."

The union representing the teachers, the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario, contends the strikes are not about pay, but a protest of a controversial new law that gives the government too much power to stop strikes and impose a new collective agreement on teachers.

Premier Dalton McGuinty has said the strike is about pay and that the province can't afford pay hikes for teachers.

Man grabs girl's arm at bus stop

Police are looking for what they described as a tan-coloured car after a man grabbed a young girl by the arm as she was waiting for a bus.

At about 8:45 a.m. on Tuesday, the school-aged girl was walking to her bus in the area of Central Ave. and Highland Ave.

The man stopped his car and approached the girl where he grabbed her by the arm. Police said he let go after the girl pulled away and yelled.

The man did not make any attempt to get the girl into his vehicle and was humming

throughout the encounter, police said.

Niagara Regional Police describe the man as a white male between the ages of 50 and 60, partially bald with a "ring of brown hair." He was last seen wearing a long, dark brown jacket.

It is uncertain as to what the man's intentions were, police said.

Anyone with information is asked to call Niagara Regional Police at 905-688-4111 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS). People can also visit www.niagaratips.com to submit tips anonymously.

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Students want extracurricular activities back in school

Dozens of high school students speak their minds about Bill 115

Kris Dubé
Editor

Students at Fort Erie Secondary School are passionate about the clubs and teams they belong to.

On Monday, about 50 of them could be found lined up and protesting Bill 115 on Central Avenue, near Wintemute Street, a short distance from FESS.

They played road hockey to illustrate what they have to do in order to enjoy extra-curricular activities, after it was announced late last week that the District School Board of Niagara would be suspending all clubs, teams and after-school services until further notice.

“We’re against what this government is doing and that they’re not letting any negotiations happen.”

— Fort Erie Secondary School student
Samantha Renshaw

Samantha Renshaw, one of the protest’s organizers, said it is unfortunate that the students are the ones who have been thrown in the middle of this situation, a labour dispute between Ontario teachers and the government.

She also said if the dis-



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Fort Erie Secondary School students Cassandra McMillan, left, Rosie Kleister and Kira Fox on Central Avenue, Monday morning.

pute is drawn out and extra-curricular activities are not restored, she wonders what will happen to functions like their prom.

“We’re worried about a lot of upcoming events,” she said.

“We’re against what this government is doing and that they’re not allowing any negotiations happen,” Abigail Webb agreed with her friend Samantha, saying that students are not taking this dispute lightly.

“We really want to get our point across,” said Webb.

Devon Walpole is one of the many students involved in the Pomegranate Restaurant at FESS, a weekly culinary event where local residents can enjoy fine cuisine prepared by the school’s high-skills major hospitality and tourism program.

Not having this available until an agreement is reached, is saddening she said.

“It’s affecting the community, we’re not just serving to students,” said

Walpole.

Shannon Jewell says she hopes this can be resolved as soon as possible and students can get back to their everyday lives at school.

“We just want this to stop,” said Jewell.

Kyle Ashley returned to FESS for one more year of hockey, but now he is wondering if that was such a good decision.

“It’s sad, because sports are a really big part of high school,” he said.

His teammate Steve Richer said if they would have known this would be happening when they signed up earlier in the year for a \$150 registration fee, many players would have signed up or tried out for other teams outside of school.

“A lot of us decided to not play in other leagues.”

Meanwhile, on Tuesday about 1,600 elementary teachers with the District School Board of Niagara staged their one-day strike protesting Bill 115, with classes cancelled for all elementary students.

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Environmental group's appeal will be heard

Kris Dubé
Editor

The environmental group who has filed an appeal over the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB)'s ruling on the Canadian Motor Speedway, will have its position further heard.

Last month, the Preservation of Agricultural Lands Society (PALS) filed

an appeal over the OMB's verdict that the \$400 million project could move ahead.

This week, it was learned that a teleconference will be held for all involved parties on the issue.

The request made by PALS to make further arguments has been granted, on the grounds that one of the individuals who spoke during the OMB hearing, was not considered to be providing

"expert evidence."

John Bacher, the member of PALS who is leading the environmental charge against the speedway said the OMB would not hear testimony from Dr. Hugh Gayler on what he referred to as "opinion evidence," based on his group's position on whether or not the project involves proper planning and conforms to provincial policy statements.

"These are all matters of opinion."

Due to Gayler's arguments not being considered expert evidence, Bacher says that is the main reason his group was not successful after the OMB's original decision.

"That was the key reason we didn't succeed," said Bacher in a phone interview.

The teleconference will be held sometime in January

2013, Bacher said.

Canadian Motor Speedway executive director Azhar Mohammad said the proponents' position "has always been that 'the OMB appeal by PALS is nothing more than a delay tactic to re-argue the exact same issues that were tabled, reviewed, and decided upon during the hearing in June.'"

He feels there are no technical or legal merits with

respect to the PALS appeal and is confident that this attempt to review the decision will not overturn the OMB's decision.

"CA has always respected the approvals process and understands the decision by the OMB to review the PALS request," said Mohammad.

"We remain confident in defeating the appeal and moving forward with the development."

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Four-month extension granted

Kris Dubé
Editor

Rosehill Auction will be able to continue working on finalizing its site plan, without having to sign a \$50,000 letter of credit.

This recommendation was put forward by Ward 3 Coun. Bob Steckley at the Dec. 3 council-in-committee meeting but was tabled until this past Monday.

On Dec. 3, representatives for the local company's improvement project were awaiting a meeting with the Ministry of Transportation, to discuss stormwater management issues, and since then that meeting was held.

"It went very well," said project manager Carlo Guerra to council on Monday.

Steckley's motion to ask for a letter of credit came after the company requested a four-month extension to complete its site plan.

Council voted in favour of allowing that extension on Monday and Steckley withdrew his recommendation.

Director of community and development services Rick Brady, said he is confident the local business can be ready to go with its site plan in four months.

"I can see no reason why there wouldn't be a site plan in place by Apr. 30," said Brady.

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Police probing fire on Jarvis

Fire and police officials are investigating the cause of a blaze at an occupied building under renovations in Fort Erie Sunday.

The fire department was called around 5:30 p.m. after people reported hearing an explosion and seeing smoke coming from the rear of the building at 86 Jarvis St.

"There were flames coming out the window when we arrived," said Fort Erie Fire Chief Larry Coplen.

He said a propane tank inside the building exploded. He advised residents to not store propane tanks inside buildings "for obvious safety reasons."

There were no injuries in the blaze, which took firefighters about one hour to contain.

The fire caused extensive damage to the rear of the building, which has commercial space on the ground floor and several apartments on the second floor.

Niagara Regional Police Detectives and the Office of the Fire Marshall are now conducting a criminal investigation into the cause of the fire which caused damage of approximately \$125,000.00.

Investigators are asking that anyone with information regarding this incident is encouraged to contact the police.

Information on crimes can be submitted anonymously using Crime Stoppers of Niagara.

To leave an anonymous tip, please contact Crime Stoppers via telephone: 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or online at www.niagaratips.com



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

The Fort Erie Fire Department attends a fire on Jarvis Street, last Sunday evening. Officials have deemed it to be suspicious and anyone with information is urged to contact the police.

Historic and symbolic fire



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Jim Hill from the Niagara Parks Commission speaks to a large crowd at last Saturday's Flames Across Niagara, an event that celebrates 200 years of peace between Canada and the United States. This is the third time this historic and symbolic fire has been held and was lit at the coal docks this time around.

Season's Greetings from



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our editorial

There's a big difference between opinion and evidence

Opinion evidence?

In our opinion, that's an odd term. In this week's issue, you have read a story about the Preservation of Agricultural Lands Society getting the green light to appeal the Ontario Municipal Board's decision on the Canadian Motor Speedway.

The group's spokesperson said they will be presenting an opinion to overturn the decision.

Let's hope the fact that this is just

a stall tactic to thwart this development is the final verdict of the continuing delays.

Everyone is entitled to their opinion, but you have to reach a point that people don't want to hear it any more... especially when the majority of a community disagrees with you.

-Kris Dubé

Common passion could be used to re—install positive momentum

Dear Editor,

As a very small community in the Niagara Region, over the holidays we should all be reflecting on where we are as a community and what needs to be done to improve the quality of life for everyone in town and what all of us can do to improve it. We should hope all the residents and business community can survive this obvious divide on our Town Council that decides every important economic issue with a 4-3 vote.

A clear majority on Town Council that always plagues new job growth and helps no one trying to sustain employment in town.

Some can say I have been passionately involved in local business issues as an advocate for further growth in job opportunities to the point that I have clashed

with most of the formal formulation of Town Council and have seen similar passion from their perspective also.

Imagine if this common passion and energy would be used to re—install positive momentum in an obviously struggling community, both socially and economically?

Our parents taught us to survive anything as they suffered through the Great Economic Depression, two world wars, foreign invasions and countless recessions and got through it all because of strength of family values and cohesiveness. We are all in this together in these trying times and should be helping those in town that are most vulnerable such as the poor, the unemployed, the elderly and the struggling business owner all of which have been caught in the cross-fire of these untimely and ill-ad-

vised decisions that continually hamper progress. Clearly a plan by the majority of Town Council hasn't been implemented yet and there are many more people in real need all over town now more than ever, as the unemployment rate is increasing.

Let us all remove ourselves for a moment, as friends and relatives of all of our Town Councilors, Town Staff and the EDTC and look at it from an outside perspective. Who in this long standing, sluggish economy would venture into a horrible family feud of sorts in this whole community and want to sustain or establish a new business and employ people in a town clearly divided?

After so many years, the westenders still claim to be disrespected by Town Hall and now some claim to be victors of sorts, as last weeks letter to the editor claimed.



Do You Remember?

Our thanks to David Renshaw for identifying last week's photo of some of the officer cadets from Royal Roads Military College, Victoria B.C. Dave, a Royal Roads graduate, believes that the picture was taken of the cadets in winter dress sell-

ing holly harvested from the grounds to support the upkeep of the College gardens - which he adds, were and still are spectacular. Even though we now know that Reinhold Nagel was not in this photo, we would still appreciate knowing if any of these officer cadets

were from Fort Erie. This week's photo continues the Christmas theme - do you know who these two people are and why they are presenting the little elf with a bouquet of flowers? Please call the Museum at 894-5322 or e-mail us: museum@forterie.on.ca.

The eastenders keeps insisting that the westenders have been poorly represented for many terms of Town Council and this present undermining of Town Staff and the EDTC is orchestrated by daily coffee shop abolitionists, while their Manchurian Candidates carry through their wishes at Town Council meetings.

I have had the pleasure of living and working in both parts of Greater Fort Erie and could honestly say that no one is better or worse off than the other and the communities outside of town have an overall impression of all of us a community not willing to grasp positive initiatives to employ people. I have also lived and worked in other parts of the Western Region that don't have these types of divisions and are doing quite better than Greater Fort Erie socially and economically.

In all of this, what dysfunctional family with obvious opposing views has ever made it through without financial ruin? We as one community in Greater Fort Erie, all have our stake in this town and need to find common ground as our most vulnerable are waiting for some sense of reconciliation, especially during the holidays when families come together.

The last letter to the Editor claimed that negativity accomplishes nothing which is absolutely correct. Can we all, at least agree to move on, move in a positive direction and decide issues that move this town forward and start employing people once again, instead of rehabilitating the past that keeps coming back to haunt the future?

Some of us that have equitable business experience for decades and plan

on retiring in Greater Fort Erie, have a vested interest in creating a vibrant collective community known as Greater Fort Erie. A whole town where every generation has equal representation at town hall to ensure young families have the same opportunities we all had growing up in all parts of town. Hopefully all of us in Greater Fort Erie will re-instate this philosophy that got us all here in the first place, which is really lacking right now.

Happy Holidays, to everyone in all corners of Greater Fort Erie and have a Happy and prosperous New Year!

Peter Koutroulakis
Fort Erie

opinion page

Community needs and wants a public aquatic facility

Dear Editor,

When the prospect of closing the Kinsmen Pool was first raised nearly 6 years ago, Jessica Kompf, a Stevensville teenager, started a petition and collected signatures in support of the pool from people across the entire community. Armed with this support, she approached council and the Kinsmen Pool Committee was formed to ascertain public support, prepare a plan, and report back. I approached Stephen Passero to chair the committee. He said yes, on one condition; that I find at least 15 people who would sit on the committee, who shared a passion and enthusiasm for a public pool, and who weren't afraid to get their hands dirty running fundraising events. I went back to him with a list of 22 names, and we all met the following week to get down to business.

Our first order of business was showing public support and determining what the public desire was. We circulated 1,500 surveys to restaurants and stores across town, and community events. More than 900 were completed and when we compiled the results it showed that less than 1% of respondents said close the pool and do nothing, 4% said close the pool and replace it with a splash pad, 41% replace the pool, and 54% replace the pool and include a splash pad component.

We asked that all respon-

dents include their postal code so we could have an idea of where the majority of support was from. We were thrilled to learn that it was equal amongst all areas of the community. So we pressed on. Calling it the 'Pool Together Campaign,' we had a series of four Fort Erie's Largest Book Sales, and three Dash 'n' Splash 5k Races; the outstanding support from the community and businesses was at times overwhelming, and confirmed our notion that the community supported a public pool. Having confirmed we were on the right track, we accepted the staff recommendation that a consultant be hired to research and present the findings to council, compare us with similar municipalities, and do a more scientific analysis than our little blue surveys.

We approached council and offered \$10,000 of our fundraised dollars to be put towards that feasibility study to discuss community demand, potential designs, and next steps for an aquatic facility. The town hired an independent 3rd party consultant, and the study findings were presented to council before last year's budget. It confirmed what we had been saying. The community of Greater Fort Erie needed, wanted, and supported a new public aquatic facility. The price tag of such a facility was more than could be raised through book sales and 5k races, so we approached council with a partnership. Start setting

aside some of the funds, and the committee would leverage these funds into grants and corporate donations - we even had an expert in fundraising tell council that the municipal contribution had to be made first or any other fundraising efforts would be in vain. Councillors Shular, Passero, and Mayor Martin supported our position, while the others offered "wisdom" such as "raise a million dollars on your own and then come back and see us," "there are no grants available right now so there is no point in setting any money aside," "most people have backyard pools so I don't see the necessity" and "I can't see spending that much money for a facility to serve only one part of town". Obviously the councillor who made the last comment didn't remember our surveys showing widespread public support from all areas.

There have been at least 3 provincial/federal grant programs that we are aware of in the past 4 years, the most recent just a few months ago, and yet with no municipal contribution set aside we are ineligible to apply. Port Colborne, Thorold, and St. Catharines have all built new aquatic facilities in the past 3 years, and they have residents with backyard pools - imagine that. The councillor who thinks that a committee can raise \$1,000,000 with no municipal support and no commitment of the facility being constructed is out to lunch.

Our committee came forward last year and endorsed the staff recommendation of a long term plan to build a public aquatic facility to serve all of Greater Fort Erie. Council would commit to raising taxes to replenish the facilities reserve fund for the money it spend on the light-house, and that tax money in subsequent years would be allocated towards the pool to start setting aside a municipal contribution so the committee could do our fundraising and grant requests. Sounded like a great plan. The problem is that by a 4-3 vote council decided not to replenish those funds as they had

committed to do when they spent it 6 months earlier. This means that not a single dollar has been set aside to date and makes it impossible for our committee to continue. We simply cannot continue to ask volunteers, businesses, and organizations to contribute their time and talent to a cause which doesn't have the support of the majority of councillors. Hopefully the next election will bring some more people to the table who view this as a priority.

That original petition, over a thousand signatures, and the clear results of \$40,000 dollars of studies and community consultation tell us this

is a worthwhile and needed facility. Should we receive the support of the majority of council, the fundraising committee is determined to raise the remaining funds for, and build an aquatic facility that will serve this community. In the meantime, if you are the councillor who said most people have backyard pools, maybe you can invite the rest of us over.

Joyce Lea
Vice-Chair
Kinsmen Pool Fundraising
Committee

Award winners



Intercede International recently held its Annual Staff and Volunteer Appreciation Banquet at the All Nations Mission Centre in Ridgeway. In this photo are James Eagles, President; Tony Hill, Milestone Award Volunteer; Yanis Smits, Milestone Award Volunteer; Rocio de Flores, Volunteer of the Year; Mabel Gonzalez, Volunteer of the Year, Reginaal Teal, Milestone Award Volunteer; Richard Krawczyk, Staff Milestone Award; Erica Rempel, Milestone Award Volunteer; Ray Dortono, Chairman; Absent: Bianca Irene Duran, Volunteer of the Year.

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Fort Erie SPCA manager Wendy Trombley with two of the about 100 cats up for adoption through the local shelter.

Limited time only at SPCA

SPCA cuts cost of cat adoption to \$99, which includes shots and spay or neuter

Kris Dubé
Editor

“We want to find them homes before the holidays.”

—Fort Erie SPCA manager Wendy Trombley

For a limited time only, the Fort Erie SPCA has reduced the cost to adopt a cat.

Until Wednesday Dec. 19, the local animal shelter will allow people to take home one of the about 100 felines they have for a cost of \$99.

This will include the animal's first shot, a rabies shot, and a spay or neuter.

Normally, this all costs \$150.

“We want to find them homes before the holidays,” said SPCA manager Wendy Trombley.

The Fort Erie SPCA also

has over a dozen cats up for adoption through different pet stores in the region.

Trombley said the animals come first, before turning a profit at the SPCA, as this offer will not make any money for the shelter.

“We prefer to get them homes, that's our goal.”

The Fort Erie SPCA is located at 410 Jarvis Street and can be contacted at (905) 871-2461.



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A helpful house



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Mandy Crosby from Community Outreach Program Erie accepts a large donation of food, collected through a partnership between the Fort Erie Rotary Club, Fort Erie Secondary School (FESS)'s hospitality and tourism program and Jesse and Kelly's No Frills. Customers at the local grocery store donated food when entering their name to win a gingerbread house prepared by students at FESS. Joining Crosby were Shelby Leesley, Devon Walpole, Casey Mark, John Maurice and Jesse and Kelly Edmondson.

From your friend, Natalie

From, Kate

rom, Jordyn

My name is Lucas. I love to do word puzzles with my mom and dad and I live in Fort Erie. I was good to my sisters. How much snow did you have this year? I would like Pokemon Tigers.

From, Lucas

Dear Santa,
I like to play Barbies with my sister and I also like crafts they are fun to. My name is Tatiana and I love Christmas. I have bin noie to my class mate's. My question is, do you love Christmas? I wood like Braz and monster high dolls. Have a great Christmas.

Love, Tatiana

Dear Santa,
I live in Fort Erie. I have a big family. I help my family. What are your favourite cookies? For Christmas I would like legos. I hope you get them.

Dear Santa,
My namy is Maddy. I love mostr high and american girl doll. I love to sleep. I wonder if you like to go sleep to? I hope you have great Christmas.

Love, Maddy

Dear Santa,
My namy is Sarah. I liv in Fort ere and I love sledding I am good and I help my friends. How do you sleep fly? I wd like a slay and son glivs. have a grat christmas.

Love, Sarah

Dear Santa,
My name is Owen and I like nrf guns and I play nrf guns with family. I have got 10 rabitos in 1 day and that means I have bin good. and Santa can I ples have more nrf guns.

Love, Owen

Dear Santa,
My name is Micaiah. I reie like sciens. Can I have a sciens kit? Oh I frgot. I reie love my family. Love Micaiah
ps I am good and wate is your favritr cookie?
I love you. by Micaiah

Dear Santa,
I have for sisters. I hv bean good. This yer what cookies would you like for Christmas? I wd like Barbies high heels.

Luv, Skita



Dear Santa,
I love you so much! I have been so good! I would please like a stuffed reindeer dog. How are you? Are you okay? I love you Santa.

From, Serenity

Dear Santa,
How do you know me? I was good. I want six phones. We love Santa.

Love, Austin

Dear Santa,
I want to know how you get all those cool ideas? I have been very very good. Can I please have a makeup. I really want to.

Love, Ally

Dear Santa,
how do you carry all those presents in that sack? I have been very good. Please bring me a Monopoly Millionaire toy, Star Wars alarm clock Darth Vader. 100 Games.

I love you

Love, Warren

Dear Santa,
What are you doing? I really want an I-phone and I really want a SMART board and I wish I had a sword. I love you Santa. I been very good.

Lincoln Blair

Dear Santa,
Are you real? I was good. I want a cool car. I love you. How old aer you?

Love, Isaac

Dear Santa,
Have all your holidays bin good? I have been good. I want for crismis blue tent, monster high bik, monster high dolls, zoo zoo pet, pilo pet ladybug, lego friends pony. I love you.

Love, Taylor

Dear Santa,
I like you Santa. I have been a very very good girl. I want a zoo zoo pet and a clock and Puzils and fasy dras. Santa how do you fill to all of the houses?

Love, McKenna

Dear Santa,
Has yr holidays been good? I been good this yer. I wd like for Crismas is three Monster High Doll anda ipod. I love you.

Love, Grace

Dear Santa,
I hope you have a good crismas. I have been a good boy. You are a very good Santa. I hope you bring me what I want, a bey blade and I want a bey wyu. Are you real Santa?

Love, Noah

Dear Santa,
I really a furby.

Love, Alexandra

Dear Santa,
I have been good. I want a Furby, bey blades, ipod, and phone for my mom. My mom is going to make lots of cookies.

Love, Charlie

Dear Santa,
How do your reindeer fly? I have been good. I want Monster High, ipod touch, Polly Pocket, Zuzu Pets, Weikins, Monster High School Shirt, Furby, My 2 front teeth, a pony and Bopit.

Love, Lauren

OUR LADY OF VICTORY GRADE 1 MRS. WILLET'S CLASS

Dear Santa,
I am six years old. how is Rudolph? Does he gractes to fir? Santa may I please have Trashies, Tek Deks and I want a big peice of chocolate.

Your friend, Eric

Dear Santa,
I am 6 years old. I have bin good. How is Rudolph and Dasher and Mrs. Claus? May I please have Lego and a Furby.
Merry Christmas, Your Friend

Kaela

Dear Santa,
I am 6 years old. I am good. How is Rudolph? How is Dasher? Santa may I please have Lego Village.
Merry Christmas! Thank you,

Jacob

Dear Santa,
I am 6 years old. I have bin good. How are you Santa? How is Rudolph? Santa I would like a ipod stand and Furby.
Thank you, Merry Christmas!

Avare

Dear Santa,
I am six years old. I have been rely good. How are you? How is Mrs. Claus? How is Rudolph? Santa may I please have Legos and books and Firtys white body. Merry Christmas and thank you.

Your friend, Isabella

Dear Santa,
I am 6 years old and I have been good. How is Rudolph Santa? and how is Dasher? For Christmas may I get Lego and a ipod, crayola.

Merry Christmas, thank you, Savanna

Dear Santa,
I am 6 yrs old. I wus good this year. How is Rudolph? Santa may I please have set of vocatocoes. Merry Christmas! and I wud like to have a rander. Kan I have a rander. I can doo gamnastix.

Merry Christmas, Rachel

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Fort Erie Times
Your Community Newspaper!

We thank all the students for their letters to Santa and know that Santa will enjoy reading each and every one.

Merry Christmas

Dear Santa,
I am 6 years old. How is Rudolph. I want a leap pad and a ipod and a lego set.
Merry Christmas, Lukas

Dear Santa,
I'm 6 years old. I have been good this year. How is Rudolph? How is Mrs. Claus? I wish you a merry Christmas, I wish you a merry Christmas, I wish you a merry Christmas, and a happy new year. Santa may I have a ho ho ho ho and I like a toy. God love you,
Joel

Dear Santa,
I am six years old. I am good. How is Rudolph and how is Dasher? Santa may I please have the movie Madagascar 3 and Lego Star Wars and thank you.
Your friend, Adam

Dear Santa,
I am 6 years old. I have bin good this year. How is Rudolph. What is your favrit cookies? Santa may I please have a toy puppy and a backing cit. Merry Christmas! Santa and the elfs and how is Dasher.
Your friend, Marley

Dear Santa,
I am 6 years old. How is Rudolph? How is Dasher? Santa may I please have Indiana Jones Lego, Lego Batman, Lego Star Wars, Lego Ninjas. Santa, thank you.
Xander

Dear Santa,
I am 6 years old. I been rely good. How is Rudolph? How are you? Santa may I please have Super Mario Bros. 2? Merry Christmas, thank you!
Jacob

Dear Santa,
I am 6 years old. I bin a good girl. How is Rudolph? Merry Christmas! Can I please have a baby butterscotch. I wish you a merry christmas! to you and mrs. claus.
Your friend, Julia



Dear Santa,
I am 6 years old. I bin good Santa. How is Rudolph. Santa may I please have a Lego and a iPod touch.
Merry Christmas! Thank you
Kian

Dear Santa,
I am six years old. I have been good. How is Rudolph and Dasher and Mrs. Claus? I like you. Santa may I please have a Barbey. Merry Christmas. I like math & I like snack.
Your friend, Jaidean

Dear Santa,
I am 5 years old. I have been vere good. Can I have Lego Ninja and Lego Sims. Merry Christmas!
Your Friend, Benjamin

Dear Santa,
I am 6 years old. I have bin good. How was Rudolph? How are you? How do you like Christmas?
Your Friend, Emily

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL - GRADE 1

Dear Santa,
How are the elves and reindeer doing? What cookies do you like? I like your reindeer. Are you tired? Please can you get me Halo sets please? Can you get my Daddy a picture of our family Please.
From, Jacob

Dear Santa,
How many houses do you go to? How are you doing? I just finished hockey. Can you get me Darth mall and Luke Skywalker? Can you help all kids have clean water?
From, Peter

Dear Santa,
How do your reindeer fly? How are the elves? I hope there alright. What cookies do you like? Are you good? I am doing I am good girl. I want a iPod touch but the others can be a surprise Christmas. I also want a Barbie doll. Can you help my dads sister she is sick. I really want to be a surprise but don't tell me the surprise.
Love, Gigi

Dear Santa,
How are you reinder? How do your reindeer fly? Please can I have a unicorn stuffed? Can you get mi dister a stuffed bear please. Hooo you have a great Christmas. What kind of cookies do you like?
Love, Daisy

Dear Santa,
How are the elves and your reindeers? Is rudolph nose red enough so bright for Christmas. I hope you deliver presents to all the kids in the world even the kids who dont have food and clean water for Christmas. Can you try to get me a iPod for Christmas and a 3ds for Christmas please. I am good at school. I am working really hard.
Love, Ethan

Dear Santa,
How are you feeling. How are you reindeer feeling? I feel very happy that it is almost Christmas. I wish that I can get a new ipod for Christmas. I would also really like a satellite for christmas. Santa can you please help people who don't have food.
Love, Justin

Dear Santa,
How is Rudolph doing? How is Mrs. Clos doing. I hope your rindeer. I hope you have a great Christmas. I play hockey. I like school it is fun. I like lunch it is yummy. Can I have more pokemon. Can I have snow troopers please.
Love, Hunter

Dear Santa,
How are the elves and the reindeers? How are you and Mrs. Claus? Santa please can you get me a stuffed animal lion for Christmas. Santa can you help the people that dont have food and clean water. I hope you stay awake. Have a good Christmas. I am doing good. How are you doing? I like school and I am doing a good job in school. How do your reindeer fly?
Love, Erica

Dear Santa,
How are the elves and reindeer doing? How do your reindeer fly? I am prictising being good to Sahviana. I am excited for Christmas! Are you excited for Christmas? What kind of cookies do you like? My favourite cookies are chocolate chop cookies. I want the best lego sets please. I want a globe please. My wish is if you can give daddy a model truck.
p.s. can you give me some more big boots for my big boots helicopter?
From, Dakotah

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? Are you feelin happy? I love you so much Santa. Can you surpise me but dont surprise me with the Bay Blades. Santa can you help my grandpa?
Love, Kris

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? I would like Lego Star Wars please. I wish that all kids in the world get toys this Christmas.
Love, Nicholai

Dear Santa,
Merry merry have a Christmas. I hope you magic. I feel very happy that Christmas is here. I am trying hard to be good. Can you try to get me a Fur Bear Friend Huppy and a tinkerbelt. Please help all people.
Love, Kriehgh

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Dear Santa,
How are the reindeers and the elves feeling?
I am good I hope you not tired. I cant think what
I want, can you surprise me? Can you give kids
food that don't have some?

Love, Shelby

Dear Santa,
How are you? I hope you are having a good day.
I am getting better at math. Please can I have a
binder for Poke mon. Can you help my mom's
tummy?

Love, Ivan

**CRYSTAL BEACH PUBLIC SCHOOL
GRADE 1 MS. PEGO'S CLASS**

Dear Santa,
I want for Christmas Scilanders Force. I would
like a scadboard and mario stuff animals. I was
good.

Love, Nicholas

Dear Santa,
I have been a good boy this year but sometimes
I have a rough day. I would like a Thomas the
train set for Christmas.

Love, Logan

Dear Santa,
Please can I get a huge ligo set, skate board,
cell of duty? I have been helping my mom get
popsicles becus she got her tonsils out.

Love, Spencer

Dear Santa,
I have been a good boy this year. I clean my
bedroom and I wach my baby brother.

Love, Austin

Dear Santa,
I would like a barbie doll for Christmas. I have
been a good girl this year. At the end of the day
I tidy up my bedroom.

Love, Caillie

Dear Santa,
I want lots a sets of Lago with lago glue. I have
been a good boy I help my mom clean up the
floor.

Love, Brodee

Dear Santa,
I have been a good boy this year. I help my
mom at hom and my grandpa who died. I would
like a monster trwek that is remote control for
Christmas.

Love, Jordan

Dear Santa,
I wood like two huge Lago sets. I have been a
good Boy.

Love, Quinn

Dear Santa,
I would like Lago Sheldo attacks Lord of the
Rings. I have been a good Boy this year.

Love, Kai

Dear Santa,
I like Board Games.

Love, Connor

Dear Santa, Clouse,
I want for Christmas a Wolverine suit. I help my
mom clean the car when she asks.

Love, Jacob

Dear Santa,
I want for Cresmas a big Prinses brrbee and a
dsi. Arts en Krets ples.

Luv, Suzle

Dear Santa,
I am a good girl. I want a seey budy and my vary
on Laptop and a dress.

Love, Danila

**OUR LADY OF VICTORY
GRADE 1 MS. MARTIN'S CLASS**

Dear Santa,
It doesn't matter and thank you. Help the poor
How do you live so long?

Your friend, Colton

Dear Santa,
How are your reindeer? Thank you for last year's
toys. How do the elves make the toys. How do
elves wrap presents? How do the reindeer fly?
Is there really a reindeer named Rudolph? Can
you help people who are poor and have no
food? Think about our families. Merry Christmas
Santa!

Your friend, Ellie

Dear Santa,
I want Just Dance 4 for playstation 3 and a Mario
toy. How are you and your reindeers. How do
your elves wrap presents and make the toys?

Your friend, Brandon

Dear Brandon,
I would like a batman video game for
Christmas. I would like it to be number 2. Thank
you for giving me the Lego Star Wars kit last year.
I hope you can give all the other kids that are less
fortunate toys, say it's from Santa & Harrison. I
am going to give you my two favorite cookies
in the world. They are chocolate chip and m &
m cookies.

Your friend, Harrison

Dear Santa,
Lego Bat sets, alarm clock & hot wheels. Also I
want to now how your reindeers are. Thank you
for last years toys.

Your friend, Jonathan

Dear Santa,
How are you Santa? How is Rudolph and Cup-
pi? Can I get the 4 headed ultra dragon and the
trash pack street sweeper. Also can I fly with
you in your sled? and can you give me a
monster truk.

Your friend, Max

Dear Santa,
I would like a D.S. How old are you? Do you have
a Christmas tree? For the poor people can you
give them some money? Thank you for the toys
you got me last year! I hope you are having fun
making toys! Have a merry christmas.

Your friend, Ryan

Dear Santa,
Some of the things that I want for Christmas are
a doll house, lava lamp, stuffed dog, light up Star
Wars. I want my frunt tooth back.
pe, thanks for the presents last year

Your friend, Addy



Hi Santa,
Have I been a good girl this year? What kind of
cookies do you like? How do the elves make all
the toys? Is there a reindeer named Rudolph?
Thank you for last years toys but can you give
some toys to the poor people? How do the rein-
deer fly? Here are some toys that I want for
Christmas. Go Go the walking puppy, a princess
computer. Merry Christmas.

Your Friend, Kheti

Dear Santa,
Here are some things I would like Rudolph? Thank you
for the things last year for Christmas. I would
like Fur Real Friends, GoGo My Walking Puppy
Sparkle Addition and a Make Your Own Monster
Station.

Your friend, Lorelei

Dear Santa,
Here are some things I would like for
Christmas. Movies, and toys. How are your rein-
deer? What do your reindeer eat? How do elves
wrap presents? Thank you Santa for last year's
toys. Is it always snowy at the North Pole? How
do the reindeer fly? Merry Christmas Santa!

Your friend, Anthony

Dear Santa
Here are some things I would like for
Christmas! 1. Lego police set. 2. Math smart
Gr 4 book. How do the elves make the toys?
What is your favourite kind of milk? How many
gifts did you pass out this year? How many elves
do you have? Merry Christmas!!!!

Your friend, Justin

INTERCEDE INTERNATIONAL

On Wednesday, November 25th, Intercede International a Fort Erie
faith based national charity held its annual Staff and Volunteer
Appreciation Banquet at the All Nations Mission Centre in Ridgway.

A banquet was served by Ridgeway Catering and awards were given out to
all volunteers. Over the past 12 months Intercede has been blessed
with many volunteers who gave of their time and talents.

Altogether our 52 volunteers contributed collectively 1438 man hours of
work. Every year we also recognize certain volunteers to be our Intercede
Volunteers of the Year.

This year the three Intercede Volunteers of the Year were:
Mrs. Blanca Irene Duran, Mrs. Rocio de Flores, and Ms. Mabel
Gonzalez.

This year four individuals were also honoured for their longevity
Milestone of Distinguished Volunteer Service to Intercede International.

For the 10 Year Milestone Award of Distinguished Volunteer
Service - they are: Ms. Erica Rempel and Mr. Reginald Teal and
for the 5 Year Milestone Award of Distinguished Volunteer Service
- they are: Dr. Yanis Smits and Mr. Tony Hill.

This year Intercede Staff member Mr. Richard Krawczyk was honoured
with the Staff Milestone Award for his 10 years of dedicated service
to Intercede International.

Volunteers of the Year



Intercede International
Volunteer of the Year Award to
Blanca Irene Duran



Intercede International
Volunteer of the Year Award to
Rocio de Flores



Intercede International
Volunteer of the Year Award to
Mabel Gonzalez



Erica Rempel Awarded Intercede
International 10 Year Milestone
Volunteer Award



Reginald Teal Awarded Intercede
International 10 Year Milestone
Volunteer Award



Yanis Smits Awarded Intercede
International 5 Year Milestone
Volunteer Award



Tony Hill Awarded Intercede
International 5 Year Milestone
Volunteer Award



Richard Krawczyk Awarded
Intercede International 10 Year
Staff Milestone Award

Dear Santa,
Does Mrs. Claus make the best cookies? How do the elves wrap the presents? What I want for christmas tee-cup pigs.

Your friend, Rebecca

Dear Santa,
I wish to have an iPod 4. What are you allowed to have a phone?

Julissa

Dear Santa,
I am 6 years old. Do you like horses? What do you want for Christmas? I have ben good. Can I have a purple unicorn please?

Merry Christmas, Kaylie

Dear Santa,

How are the reindeer? I wud like a video game please and a Imagines Castle.

Your Friend, Harry

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? Please may I have the whole set for Monster High? I want candy too please.

Love, Kierin

Dear Santa,
How is Mrs. Claus? For Christmas I want that blanket that Maddy has and I want Cleo Denial and I want butskotch the pony and I want the Monster High School. How are you?

Love, Angelina

Dear Santa,
I am going to leve cookies and melc and carrots for your reindeer. I would like drawing stuff and a remote control monster truck and crane digger from Monster Jam and my own Christmas tree.

Love, Brock

Dear Santa,
Can I please have a stuff animal, M & M and a tractor trailer and toy tiger and toy basket ball.

Love, Jacob

Dear Santa,
How are the reindeer? Can I have the Green ninja please?

Love, James

Dear Santa,
How are the reindeer? I will leave you cookies and milk. Can I have Lego please.

Love, Nicole

Dear Santa,
How are the reindeer? Can I please have mini sticks? How do the reindeer fly?

Love, Colin

Dear Santa,
How is the reindeer? How do you deliver toys? Cal I have a toy walking dog? Can I have a stuffed bird?

Your friend, Emma

Dear Santa,
Do you no what I want four Christmas? I want a Cinderella Carriage please. I want to pet the reindeer please. How's Mrs. Claus?

Love, Gianna

Dear Santa:
I have been a v
good girl this year.
Is my wish list.
1. A doll
2. Books
3. A diary
Love

Dear Santa,
How r you? I will leev gingerbread. Do you like red and do you like green?

Love, Evan

Dear Santa,
No what I want four Christmas? Please can I have a Alien Conquest and a stuffed ice Bird. How are the reindeer?

Love, Roman

Dear Santa,
How do you make presents? Are the reindeers fed? Why do elfs have big ears?

Love, Addison

Dear Santa,
How are the reindeer? How do you make toys. How do you bring the toys? I got cookies for you. I got a Christmas tree.

Love, Andrew

Dear Santa,
Ho Ho Ho. How are elves. Marry Christmas. I wudd please like candy cane. May I have sum gum.

Love, Alley

RIDGEWAY PUBLIC SCHOOL 1/2 MRS. REDEKOP'S CLASS

Dear Santa,
How are you? elves oh How are the reindeer. I have been good this year. I would like a baby bunny puppy and a laptop and a elf on the shelf and an ipod and a hamster and a high-heal running shoe. Thank you.

Love, Lauren

Dear Santa,
How are you and the elves? How are the reindeer? I have been realy good this year. For Christmas I would like a hamster and a bee bee gun.

From, Carter

Dear Santa,
How are you? How ore the reindeer? I have been good this year. I would like a DS and a stuffed animal.

Love, Mya

Dear Santa,
How are you? How are the reindeer? I have been good this year. I would like a lap top. Thank you.

Love, Kara

Dear Santa,
How are you? How are the reindeer? I have been good this year. I would like a DS. How are the elfs? I love you Santa. Where do you live? Where do your elfs work?

Love, Taylor

Dear Santa,
How are the reindeer? How are the elves? We have an elf on the shelf right now! Christmas is coming soon! Please can I have an iPod and a Odemadik mini stick ball shooter. the end.

Love Tyler

Dear Santa,
How are you? How are the reindeer? How are your elves? I would like Orbees light. Thank you.

Love, Ella

Dear Santa,
How is Dasher? One of the elves has a tutu in our classroom. I would like a hamster. Thank you. Could I have an iPod?

Love, Ty

Dear Santa,
How is rudolph? I don't know if I've been this year. I will try to be good. I want a baby with a soother and an elf on the shelf. Thank you.

Love, Jenna

Dear Santa,
I just want a tinkerbell flyer for Christmas and a real lizard. Thank you Santa.

Love, Sarah

Dear Santa,
How is the reindeer? Is the reindeer feeling good. I am good. I want a DS, an iPod and a phone.

Love, Isaiah

Dear Santa,
How are you? How are the reindeer. I have been good this year. I would like an iPod. Thank you.

Love, Calleigh

Early Christmas gift



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Courtney Bonito, from Canadian Niagara Power, presented customer Rachel Muscat with a Blackberry Playbook she won in a draw for signing up for electronic billing.

Making a good impression



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Last Saturday morning, Lasting Impressions on Ridge Road, donated a huge collection of toys to the Fort Erie Kinettes, just in time for the holidays.

Dear Santa,
How is the sleigh? How is Rudolph? I've been good this year. I want a lap top please. Thank you Santa.

From, James

Dear Santa,
How are you Santa and the elves? How is the reindeer? I have been good this year. I would like train twister and a DS and a hamster. Thank you.

Love, Vaughn

Dear Santa,
How are you? How are the reindeer? I have been good this year. I would like a goldfish. Thank you.

Love, Laura

Dear Santa,
How are the reindeer? How is the sleigh? I think I have a good girl. May I please have a tinkerbelle flyer and an iPod.

Love, Lily

Dear Santa,
I been good. I would like a app blaster and a ipod and lego and a Lap top.

Love, Ian

Dear Santa,
How are you?
I want a PS3 for Christmas. Thank you. I hope you come.

From, Noah

**RIDGEWAY PUBLIC SCHOOL
GRADE 1 MRS. SCREEN'S CLASS**

Dear Santa,
Hi. My name is Evan. What cookies do you like the best? I would like an alarm clock and a Hot Wheels Power Tower please. I like your red hat.

Love, Evan

Dear Santa,
Hi. My name is Ryder. Do you like cookies? I would like you to bring me a X-box. I have been good this year. I love Mrs. Claus.

Love, Ryder

Dear Santa,
Hi My name is Taylor. I would like you to bring me The Lego city Fier truck set and please bring my the Lego gold mine that is smell. How is Mrs. Claus? Do you like chookit or white milk?

From, Taylor

Dear Santa,
Hi My name is Aly. How do you make Rudolph fly? I would like a bribe and pop star Cassie.

Love, Aly

Dear Santa,
Hi My name is Nick. I would like you to bring me a 3DS and a butlr. I have been very good. How dus Rudolphs nos glo? You're the best.

From, Nick

Dear Santa,
Hi My name is Alex. How do your reindeer fly? I would like you to bring me Lego and little big planit cart. Santa I love you!

From, Alex

Dear Santa,
Hi! My name is Matthew. I would like you to bring me Lego ninjo. How is Rudolph. I have been very good!

From, Matthew

Dear Santa,
Hi! My name is Kayte. I would like you to bring me la, la, loopey and a store book. You are really kind.

Love, Kayte

Dear Santa,
Hi! My name is Jacob. How is Rudolph? I would like you to bring me Lego batman. I would like an X-box.

From, Jacob

Dear Santa,
Hi my name is Adam. Which town do you go to first? I would like you to bring me a Lego Ninjago set. Santa you're the best.

Love, Adam

Dear Santa,
Hi my name is Stella. How is Rudolph doing? I would please like a toy horse. I have been very good.

Love, Stella

Dear Santa,
Hi! My name is Molly. Is Rudolph your faiverit reindeer? I would like a new webkin. Give ru-ndoh a hug.

Love, Molly

Dear Santa,
Hi! My name is Stephen. What town do you go to first? I would like a trash pac. I have been very good.

Love, Stephen

Dear Santa,
Hi! My name is Jack. How is Rudolph? Is he good? Santa can you bring me a Lego Ninjago for Christmas

Love, Jack

Dear Santa,
Hi! My name is Zoe. How do you get the reindeers to fly? I would like you to bring me a new dol for Christmas. I have been a good girl.

Love, Zoe

Dear Santa,
Hi! My name is Libby. How do you make Rudolph's nose shine? I would like you to bring me any thing that is right for me. I have been good.

Love, Libby

FORT ERIE ELEMENTARY - GRADE 1

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a Holiday Barbie with some clothes. My mom would like fake nails and my dad likes Jamaican music.

Thank you, Love Neah

Dear Santa,
Could you please bring me a X-Box 360 and transformers, and an iPod. How is the snow in the North Pole? I will leave you some cookies and milk to go with the reindeer. Have a great ride!

Love, Pranav

Dear Santa,
Could you please bring me a Xbox 360 and games. I will leave carrots for the reindeer when you come Christmas Eve.

Love, Cheyenne



Dear Santa,
Could you please bring me an iPod touch, nail polish and some crayons. I love you Santa and thanks for bring us toys.

Love, Emily

Dear Santa,
Could you please bring me a Barbie, a One Direction Barbie and a Barbie dream house. Could you also bring my mom a steam cleaner.

Love, Riley

Dear Santa,
Could you please bring me a X-Box 360, games Mario Brother 2 an iPad. I also would like a new dog and an 1812 soldier. Say hello to Mrs. Claus for me.

Love, Roberto

Dear Santa,
Could you please bring me a doll house and a Lalaloopsy and a Santa game. Also I would like a puppe and a piglit and a book and a Xbox 360.

Love, Tianna

Dear Santa,
Could you please bring me a Mario Cart for DSi, nerf gun. Also a toy pistal, skylla noerg, a toy bazooka, and transformers.

Aiden



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

St. Joseph's Catholic Elementary School principal Lorrie MacKenzie, student Olivia Landon and Carol Peischl from the Black Creek-Stevensville Lions Club.

Poster promotes peace

Kris Dubé
Editor

Olivia Landon, a grade eight student at St. Joseph's Catholic Elementary School wants to spread the message of peace.

Each year, Lions Clubs around the world proudly sponsor an International Peace Poster Contest in local schools and youth groups.

Landon's piece of art was chosen as the third best in the Niagara District.

This art contest encour-

ages young people worldwide to express their visions of peace.

For 25 years, more than four million children from nearly 100 countries have participated in the contest.

This year's theme was 'Imagine Peace' and students aged 11 to 13 were eligible to participate.

In her poster, messages about uniting races and nations are conveyed.

"I wanted to address people coming together and the collage represents unity throughout the world," said Landon, who

is also the school's student council president.

The student was presented a \$50 cash prize from the Black Creek-Stevensville Lions Club's Carol Peischl on Tuesday, who said Landon's work certainly deserves praise. "She did a beautiful job, everyone was very impressed," said Peischl.

The school's principal, Lorrie MacKenzie, was also very pleased with Landon's efforts.

"We're very proud of her submission. It really encapsulates the importance of peace."

A fond farewell

Melissa Mangelsen
Fort Erie Times

The Big Brothers Big Sisters of Fort Erie recently said goodbye to long-time executive director Sandra Barrett who moved on to take a part-time job with the Fort Erie Multicultural Centre.

She wanted the opportunity to spend more time with her young children, but said that she will continue to volunteer with Big Brothers Big Sisters, as well as stay in contact with the lifelong friendships she developed during her time there.

Barrett began her position straight out of school as a caseworker. Six years later her role with Big Brothers Big Sisters grew and she became the executive director.

"I've had an array of experience here. Some of my fondest memories are the clients, children and families I've met. I've built a lot of really great relationships and enjoyed being a part of it," she said.

Another good memory for her is the annual Bowl for Kids Sake, which is a fundraiser for the program. This

year it will be Feb. 23 to March 2 at Carroll's Bowling Lanes in Fort Erie.

"It's not too early to think of your team and register for the event," said Darlene Hazlett.

Barrett said one of the biggest changes in the recent years was the growth of the program, which jumped for 35 kids to 200.

"The relationships I've built with the staff here have been wonderful," she said.

"This community is really important to me," said Barrett.

A challenge they've always had is their sustainability. Without money, you can't provide all the programs needed. Though Barrett noted that the people of Fort Erie area are always really generous, you can't always rely on the community for funding, so they have looked to other places such as grants to help with their continued success.

Shari Closs will be the new "face of Fort Erie," for the program. With her new position Closs is returning to her roots in the Niagara Region. She started her career with Big Brothers Big Sisters in 1995 and worked there for three years before taking a

position in social services in Toronto.

"I was born in Port Colborne and this is where my heart is. This is where I belong. I always knew I would return to this area, and knew I would return to Big Brothers Big Sisters," said Closs.

Closs's family has roots and connections within Fort Erie and Hazlett said Closs has the ability to see the gems in Fort Erie.

"Everyone really comes together in tough times. The support from everyone is so incredible. I have big shoes to fill here, but the community has been really wonderful. I see big things for Big Brothers and Big Sisters. This is a very exciting time," she added.

"This is one of the most rewarding jobs. You're not just helping someone today, this lasts forever," said Hazlett.

All three stressed the importance of volunteering and said that no matter how much time you have they have a volunteer position available.

See Page 24

Mittens and Books



Maria Salvati of the Adult Literacy Council and Laura Martin, the Fort Erie Public Library (FEPL)'s Children's and Teen's Librarian, worked to match up mitts with hats with books for the proper age groups. Over 100 sets are being sent from Centennial Branch alone to the Salvation Army, where they will be distributed with the Kinsmen Gift of Love. The items are collected through the Mitten Trees at all three FEPL branches.



MELISSA MANGELSEN Fort Erie Times

Darlene Hazlett, Shari Closs and Sandra Barrett. Barrett handed her keys over to Closs, who will become the new "face of Fort Erie" for the Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Church Directory

Riverside Community Church
Christmas: The Coming of the Messiah
Sundays: 9:30 & 11:00am
www.riversidecommunitycc.com
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service: 6:30pm

Trinity Lutheran Church
171 North Street, Fort Erie
Sunday, December 16 at 10:00 a.m.
Christy Service: Singers by church members
Prayers, La Poudre (singers) and members
of the Christian Society and Poudre choir.
Monday, December 24 at 7:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Tuesday, December 25 at 10:00 a.m.
Christmas Day Service
All are welcome.

trinitylife
GOD'S GIFT OF JOY
Pastor Dale Shaw's message title this week is:
GOD'S GIFT OF JOY
Sunday Service at 10:30am
Nursery & Toddler Care Provided
Kids Time Starting at 10:15 am
5248 Sheraton Road, Sheraton
Windsor, Ontario N9A 6K9

BERTIE CHURCH
5244 Highway #3, Sherkston, ON
(at Sherkston United Church Facility)
905-894-0717
Sunday at 11:00 a.m.
Speaker: Rev. Andrew Doherty

LEE DENTURE CLINIC
SAME DAY
REPAIRS & RELINES
 905-871-2882
 100 HAWKVALE BLVD., FORT ERIE

BRICKS & Bouquets

NOBODY BEATS
 Best Value
 Optical
 905-871-5010
 2 Black Street
 10 am to 6 pm Weekdays
"NOBODY"

Brick to idling vehicles
 Brick to the inconsiderate people that sit in parking lots with their engines running. Your exhaust fumes get into the cars around you and those fumes are deadly. Lots of people leave dogs in their cars so if you don't care about the environment or other people please think of the poor dogs.

Brick to moral fibre
 A passionate brick to the motorist who unrelentingly hammered on their horn while our disabled son was getting on the bus this morning. Any intelligent person can understand that a special needs bus picking up a special needs child is going to take longer than a regular bus stop. What a wonderfully efficient way to declare to everyone on the street the level of your moral fibre.

Bouquet to bus trip
 This is a bouquet to a local business who organizes bus trips to Buffalo Bills games. I inquired to see if they had an extra spot, the day before the game, when I thought the ride I had originally planned on was backing out on me. Even though I did end up find-

ing a ride with a friend, the business' owner found me a spot. Next time, I'll take them up on their offer.

Bouquet to 'angel on Earth'

This is a bouquet to the woman who helped me when I fell at the Main Street Intersection in Stevensville. I want to wish a Merry Christmas to this person. Angels do walk on Earth.

Brick to garbage dumpers

A brick to whoever is responsible for dumping multiple garbage bags along a ditch on Gorham Road. It looks disgusting, get your act together.

Bouquet to students

This is a bouquet to all the high school students who protested Bill 115 this week. It's great to see young people fighting for what they believe in and understanding the difficult issues that impact them.

Bouquet to fire department

This is a huge bouquet to the Fort Erie Fire Department for its work last Sunday, fighting a fire on Jarvis Stret. If they did not contain it the way they did, things could have been much worse.

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Bridgeburg Jewellers
 44 Jarvis Street
 Fort Erie
 Arrives from the post office
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Send your bricks & bouquets to:
 bricks.forterie@sun-media.ca or phone:
 905-871-3100
 ext. 210

Lego Club at St. Philomena hopes to 'put together' a win

Melissa Mangelsen
 Fort Erie Times

Last weekend at Niagara College's Glendale Campus, students from St. Philomena Catholic Elementary School competed at the First Lego League (FLL) Eastern Ontario Provincial Championship Qualifiers.

The team from St. Philomena finished fifth out of 15 teams advancing them to provincials. Four out of the five teams advancing are Catholic schools. The provincial competition will be held Jan. 12 in Oshawa.

The students, who create

autonomous robots out of Lego, were tasked with the challenge of pre-programming their robots to complete as many of the "missions" in the four by eight field as possible in under three minutes.

Ryan Dominsk, coach, said the FLL involves teamwork, applying critical thinking, and challenging students to work together to create robots that could have real-life application.

The theme for this year's competition was SuperSeniors. Students competing had to build a robot that could carry out tasks that the average senior needs help with. The

team went into into the community and asked seniors what some of their challenges were. They had a resounding answer of mobility to work with.

Team members then partnered with a senior and headed to the YMCA to walk with them. They also solved the issues in regards to transportation for the seniors, learning that it was \$3 to take the bus to the YMCA. They also created a robot that could move objects, reach and perform various strength tasks.

This is the second year students from St. Philomena attended the event, and aside from moving onto provincials, they also won the Core Values Award, which was awarded to a team that worked well together.

The team has 11 students from Grade 7 and 8, who are all dedicated and enthusiastic about the league.

They started preparing for the competition in September and spent an hour and a half, three times a week working on it.

"They really enjoy doing it, they were asking me on the first day of school when they could start. This is an opportunity of them to display some knowledge outside of the classroom," said Dominsk.

The mission of the league is to inspire young people to be science and technology leaders, by engaging them in mentor-based programs that build science, engineering and technology skills, that inspire innovation, and that foster well-rounded life capabilities including self-confidence, communication and leadership.

"The students are really knowledgeable with what they're doing. They're working on some things here that I don't even quite understand," said Dominsk.



MELISSA MANGELSEN Fort Erie Times

Students from St. Philomena Catholic School are getting ready for a provincial lego championship in January.

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Unused Plows can be carried to next season.
 Phone: 905-988-6911

Surfing Santa to be escorted by border patrol

Melissa Mangelsen
Fort Erie Times

John Fulton, also known as Surfing Santa, said he's not a man of many traditions, however for the past 28 years he has been dressing up like Santa and embarking on a wind-surfing trip across the Niagara River into the United States to bring attention to the plight of the homeless worldwide.

In the past, Fulton has had some run ins with border patrol in the U.S., even being arrested one year for illegally entering the United States. Last year he was brought in by U.S. border patrol because heavy winds caused some problems as the mast of his sail snapped into pieces when he was about halfway to the States on the Niagara River.

This year his trip across the river will have a new twist, as the U.S. border patrol reached out to Fulton and offered their service in escorting him across the river.

"They've been really great over the years," Fulton said.

"I'm interested to see how

the addition of the border patrol will change this event," he added. They're also getting involved on the U.S. side by promoting the event and giving it media coverage.

Mike Sciolli, lead border patrol agent, said they decided to escort him because of the troubles he encountered last year.

"U.S. Border Patrol Marine Vessels patrol the waters of the Niagara River on a daily basis. We have spoken to Mr. Fulton (Surfing Santa) and have knowledge of where he will be performing his wind surfing activities. In the event of an accident, as with every boater we will respond and offer assist to the best of our ability," said Sciolli.

"We were happy to offer assistance to Mr. Fulton last year when his mast broke. Our Marine vessel was in the right place at the right time to offer this support," said Sciolli.

Though Fulton enjoys the media coverage he generates from crossing the river, the reason he really does it is to give back to the community and bring to light the issue of homelessness. On Christmas

Day he delivers food and warm clothes to less fortunate individuals in Niagara.

"It does put Fort Erie and wind-surfing on the map, but it's great that I can be a part of something that gives back to the community. You can't just take, you have to give back too. There are a lot of people out there who can't afford presents at Christmas. As you get busy with Christmas it's easy to forget about the people who have nothing. I want people to go out and help a family who needs it," said Fulton.

He asks the public to take some of their stuff, toys, food, clothes, blankets, cash, etc., and find a shelter, a homeless person, family, charity and make a donation. Shelters and food banks have a greater need than ever during these tough economic times. He is currently the longest running surfing Santa in the world.

The event will be Dec. 23 from 9 to 11 a.m. Depending on the wind, he will either leave from Old Fort Erie, Bowen Road Park or Service Road 4, near the Niagara Parkway Marina.



Surfing Santa gets ready to hit the Niagara River last year. He will be embarking on his annual tradition on Dec. 23.

Find Independence in your home.

The Healthy Homes Renovation Tax Credit can help.

Seniors 65 years and older and their live-in family members are eligible for a tax credit of up to \$1,500 on home modifications that improve safety and accessibility – regardless of income. Eligible improvements include things like support bars, ramps or walk-in bathtubs. To claim your credit, keep your receipts for when you file your taxes.



ontario.ca/healthhomes • 1-866-668-8297 • TTY 1-800-263-7776

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Our Focus: Your Future

OVERNIGHT WINTER PARKING ON STREETS

ATTENTION ALL MOTORISTS: In an effort to keep the streets free of vehicles during the winter months for snowplowing and sanding operations, residents are reminded that no overnight parking is permitted.

Traffic By-law No. 2000-89, Section 205 provides that "No person shall park a vehicle or permit a vehicle to remain parked" on any street in Town "between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. between November 1, 2012 and March 31, 2013."

The Town's By-law Enforcement Officers will be exercising vigilant enforcement of By-law No. 2000-89. Your vehicle will be issued a parking ticket and could be towed, at your expense, if found in violation of the By-law.

Inquiries may be directed to the Town's By-law Enforcement Officers by calling (905) 871-1600, Extension 2216 (Geoff Stephenson) or Extension 2215 (Matt Richardson).



TOWN OF FORT ERIE 2012 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY PUBLIC SKATING

LEISUREPLEX:

TIM HORTONS HOLIDAY FREE SKATE
TIM HORTONS HOLIDAY FREE SKATE
TIM HORTONS HOLIDAY FREE SKATE
TIM HORTONS HOLIDAY FREE SKATE
TIM HORTONS HOLIDAY FREE SKATE
SATURDAY, JANUARY 5TH

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27TH
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28TH
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2ND
THURSDAY, JANUARY 3RD
FRIDAY, JANUARY 4TH
2:00 - 8:30 PM

2:00 - 3:30 PM
2:00 - 3:30 PM
1:30 - 3:00 PM
2:00 - 3:30 PM
2:00 - 3:30 PM
\$1.50/PERSON

CRYSTAL RIDGE ARENA:

TIM HORTONS HOLIDAY FREE SKATE
TIM HORTONS HOLIDAY FREE SKATE
TIM HORTONS HOLIDAY FREE SKATE
FRIDAY, JANUARY 4TH
SATURDAY, JANUARY 5TH

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27TH
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2ND
THURSDAY, JANUARY 3RD
8:00 - 10:00 PM
1:00 - 2:30 PM

2:00 - 3:30 PM
2:00 - 3:30 PM
2:00 - 3:30 PM
\$2.50/PERSON
\$1.50/PERSON



TOWN OF FORT ERIE

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT

Planning Act, 1990, c. P 13, ss.17(23), O.Reg. 543/06

APPLICANT:
FILE #:
PROJECT:

TOWN OF FORT ERIE
350313.001
SPEARS-HIGH POINTE SECONDARY PLAN



TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Town of Fort Erie passed By-law No. 131-12 being a By-law to adopt Amendment No.8 to the Official Plan for the Fort Erie Planning Area, on the **10th day of December 2012** under section 22 of the Planning Act.

AND TAKE NOTICE that any person or public body will be entitled to receive notice of the decision of the approval authority if a written request to be notified of the decision is made to the Regional Clerk, Regional Municipality of Niagara, 2201 St. David's Road, P.O. Box 1042, Thorold, Ontario, L2A 4T7, being the approval authority to which this official plan amendment is being submitted. Anyone requesting notification must include complete contact information.

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

The purpose and effect of proposed Official Plan Amendment No. 8 is to implement the land use recommendations of the Spears-High Pointe Secondary Plan.

INFORMATION WITH RESPECT TO THE AMENDMENT

Information pertaining to the proposed Official Plan Amendment application and the adopted Official Plan Amendment No. 8 is available at the Community and Development Services Department, Town of Fort Erie, 1 Municipal Centre Drive or by visiting the Town's website at www.town.forterie.on.ca access the Neighbourhood/Secondary Plans page using the Quick Links drop down menu at the top right of the Main Page.

OTHER APPLICATIONS

The Town of Fort Erie will now commence select rezoning initiatives in order to reflect new or changed land use designations to effectively implement the Secondary Plan. When the required changes to the zoning have been determined, the Town will initiate informal and formal public consultation prior to Council's consideration of the proposed changes. Further public notice will be published concerning the rezoning process at a later date.

DATED AT THE TOWN OF FORT ERIE THIS 15th day of December, 2012.

CAROLYN KETT, TOWN CLERK

TOWN OF FORT ERIE - PUBLIC NOTICE

PROPOSED ADOPTION OF 2013 WATER AND WASTEWATER BUDGET

TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to Section 291 of the *Municipal Act, 2001* and Public Notice Policy By-law No. 206-07, the Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie intends to hold a public meeting and consider a by-law at its meeting of Monday, January 21, 2013 to adopt the 2013 Water and Wastewater Budget.

EXPLANATORY NOTE: The Town's proposed 2013 Water and Wastewater Budget includes gross billings of \$16.4 million for Fort Erie water/wastewater customers. The increased customer billing rates for 2013 are based on estimated billings for treatment costs from the Region of Niagara of \$9.5 million. The Region approved the treatment rates on November 15, 2012.

For more information please go to the Town's website at www.forterie.on.ca under the 2013 Budget banner. Further inquiries should be directed to Helen Chamberlain, Director of Financial Services at ext. 2300 (hchamberlain@forterie.on.ca).

PROPOSED 2013 WATER AND WASTEWATER RATES

GENERAL INFORMATION: That pursuant to Section 270(1)(4) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, the Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie intends to pass a by-law at its meeting of Monday, January 21, 2013 to increase the water and wastewater rates associated with the distribution, collection and treatment of water and wastewater. The current and proposed rates to take effect with billings issued after February 1, 2013 are as follows:

	2013 Water Rates	2012 Water Rate	2013 Wastewater Rate	2012 Wastewater Rate	2013 Combined Rate	2012 Combined Rate
Base Rate	\$ 24.27	\$ 24.15	\$ 40.87	\$ 39.22	\$ 65.14	\$ 63.37
Consumption Rate (per cubic metre)	\$ 1.095	\$ 1.070	\$ 1.204	\$ 1.137	\$ 2.299	\$ 2.207

All water and wastewater related fees and charges as provided for under By-law No. 14-11 are proposed to increase proportionately starting February 1, 2013 according to the usual including base rates for various meter sizes.

The total combined increase per typical customer using 16 cubic metres per month is \$3.24 or 3.28%.

DELEGATION: To appear before Council at the public meeting on January 21, 2013 any person wishing to speak to the proposed 2013 Water and Wastewater Budget and Rates must register with the Clerk's Office by calling 905-871-1600 ext. 2236 by 3:00 p.m. Thursday January 17, 2013.

Dated at Fort Erie, Ontario this 12th day of December, 2012.

Carolyn J. Kett, Town Clerk
ckett@forterie.on.ca

Helen Chamberlain, Director of Financial Services
hchamberlain@forterie.on.ca

THE TOWN OF FORT ERIE

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TOWN OF FORT ERIE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT APPLICATION

PURPOSE: ZONING BY-LAW 129-90 HOUSEKEEPING AMENDMENT

APPLICANT: TOWN OF FORT ERIE

DATE: MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 2013 **APPLICATION #:** 350309-0354
LOCATION: COUNCIL CHAMBERS, TOWN HALL
 1 MUNICIPAL CENTRE DRIVE, FORT ERIE **TIME:** 6:00 PM

A location map is not provided with this notice, as the proposed amendment applies to all and various lands within the corporation limits of the Town of Fort Erie.

PURPOSE: The Town of Fort Erie has initiated a major Housekeeping Amendment to bring the Town's Zoning By-law 129-90 into conformity with the Town's new Official Plan which was adopted by the Town in September of 2006 and the Plan in November of 2011. In addition, this housekeeping amendment will recognize other minor housekeeping changes that have been noted by staff throughout 2012.

Amendments and Interpretation and Notes

The Index has been modified to reflect the proposed new changes throughout the by-law. Also a new clause has been added to the interpretation section to clarify that the by-law may not necessarily reference the most current legislation or regulation, but that the most current legislation or regulation is applicable.

New Definitions and Amended Definitions

An amendment of the Zoning By-law has created a need for the following new definitions to be introduced: "Assisted Living House", "BMX Race Shop", "Equine Related Manufacturing Facilities", "Farm Winery", "Greenhouse Product Outlet", "Home for the Aged", "Local Shopping Centre", "Regional Shopping Centre", "Secondary Use", "Spa Services", and "Temporary Use". There are three newly titled definitions: "Farm Product Market", "Farm Product Outlet" and "Agriculturally Related Use". Revisions to other existing definitions to provide clearer meaning and understanding are proposed to: "Altit", "Bake Shop", "Group Home", "Liquor Store", "Lot Frontage", "Outdoor Recreation", "Personal Service Shop", "Professional Office" and "Freestanding Shop". The following definitions are to be deleted: "Second Level Lodging House", "Senior Citizens Apartment House", "Shopping Centre", "Portable Home" and "Modular Home".

Grammatical, Spelling and Clarity Amendments

Grammatical, spelling and minor clarity amendments are proposed. This also includes renumbering of some sections where it is deemed necessary, due to other changes to the by-law.

General Provisions

An examination of the provisions requires new provisions and changes to old provisions to provide clarity and to be consistent with human rights code and green energy act. The provisions include changes to: "Accessory Uses", "Group Homes", "Home Occupations", "Lighting and Signs", "Parking Area Regulations", "Prohibited Structures", "Swimming Pools", "Temporary Uses", "Storage of Recreational Vehicles", "Yard Encroachments", "Accessory Apartments" and "Refuse Collection Areas".

New Zones and Provisions

The following are proposed new zones:

Section 16: Waterfront Residential (WR) Zone - Along Lake Erie and Niagara River Parkway inside the urban area boundary

Section 16A: Waterfront Rural Residential (WRR) Zone - Along Lake Erie and Niagara River Parkway outside the urban area boundary

Section 16B: Existing Commercial Use (ECU) Zone - Commercially designated uses in the Town's Official Plan outside the urban area boundary

Section 20A: Urban Entertainment Centre (UEC) Zone - Area in and around the Fort Erie Race Track

Section 25B: Core Mixed Use 2 CMU2 Zone - Crystal Beach Area

Section 33A: Existing Open Space (EOS) Zone - Open Space designated areas in the Town's Official Plan outside the urban area boundary

Section 35B: Environmental Conservation EC Overlay Zone - In accordance with the Environmental Conservation Areas identified in the Town's Official Plan

New Uses and/or Amended Uses Permitted in Existing Zones

The following sections in the Zoning By-law require revisions or additions:

Section 7: Agricultural A Zone - New permitted uses, changes to titles, modifications to regulations, revisions to special provisions and relocation of special exceptions

Section 8: Rural RU Zone - New permitted uses, changes to titles, modifications to regulations, revisions to special provisions and relocation of special exceptions

Section 9: Rural Residential RR Zone - modifications to regulations and relocation of special exceptions

Section 11: Residential 1 R1 Zone - height limit in metres and relocation of special exceptions

Section 11: Residential 2 R2 Zone - height limit in metres and relocation of special exceptions

Section 12: Residential 2A R2A Zone - height limit in metres

Section 13: Residential 3 R3 Zone - height limit in metres and change to interior side yard setback

Section 14: Residential Multiple 1 RM1 Zone - modifications to regulations

Section 15: Residential Multiple 2 RM2 Zone - new permitted uses, change in title, change to height limit in metres and relocation of special exceptions

Section 16: Estate Residential ER Zone - to be deleted

Section 17: Neighbourhood Development ND Zone - height limit in metres

Section 19: Local Commercial C1 Zone - Two new permitted uses and change to maximum gross floor area.

Section 20: General Commercial C2 Zone - Three new uses and height limit in metres

Section 21: Central Business District C2A Zone - A new use and height limit in metres

Section 22: Highway Commercial C3 Zone - A new use, height in metres, and relocation of special provisions.

Section 24: Recreational Commercial C5 Zone - Three new uses, height in metres, and relocation and deletion special provisions

Section 25: Shopping Centre Commercial C6 Zone - A new use, new regulations for a local shopping centre and a regional shopping centre

Section 26: Rural Commercial C7 Zone - height in metres, and relocation and deletion of special provisions.

Section 26A: Core Mixed Use 1 CMU1 Zone - rename the zone, permit an additional use and height in metres

Section 27: Industrial I1 Zone - removal of use, regulations for buildings with exposure to the QEW.

Section 28: Prestige Industrial PI Zone - regulations for buildings with exposure to the QEW.

Section 29: Dry Industrial DI Zone - change name of a use to match definition in Section 5 and regulations for buildings with exposure to the QEW.

Section 31: Institutional I2 Zone - A new use and deletion of a use.

Section 32: Public P Zone - new regulations for water pollution control plants

Section 33: Open Space OS Zone - Relocation of special exceptions

Section 34: Hazard H Zone - permit accessory building with existing use and associated regulations and relocation of special exceptions

Section 35A: Environmental Protection EP Zone - relocation of special exceptions.

Schedule A

The Zoning Maps in Schedule A have been revised to reflect the designation identified in the Town's Official Plan.

HAVE YOUR SAY

Input on the proposed Zoning By-law Amendments is welcome and encouraged. You can provide input by speaking at the public meeting or by making a written submission to the Town. Please note that unless you do one of the above now, you may not be able to appeal the decision later.

WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS

To provide input in writing, or to request written notice of the decision of the Zoning By-law Amendment, please send a letter to the Town Clerk Carolyn Clark, 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, Ontario, L2A 2S6

MORE INFORMATION

For further information please contact Kim Dolch, Manager of Development Approvals at (905) 871-1600 extension 2502 or Matt Korman at (905) 871-1600 ext. 2507. Additional detailed information respecting these proposed By-law Amendments is available for the public in the form of a public hearing notice, Community and Development Services Department, Town Hall, during regular business hours, and is also available on the Town website at www.forterie.on.ca

A copy of the Information Report will be available to the public on January 11th, 2013. The information report will be available on the Towns Web Site: www.forterie.on.ca and from the Community and Development Services Department.

PLANNING ACT LEGAL NOTICE REQUIREMENTS

The Town of Fort Erie has not yet made a decision regarding this application. After considering any written comments and the comments from the public meeting, a Recommendation Report will be prepared for a Future Council-in-Committee meeting.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Fort Erie before the by-law is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the Town of Fort Erie Council to the Ontario Municipal Board.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions to the public meeting, or make written submissions to the Town of Fort Erie before the by-law is passed, the person or public body may not be added as party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Municipal Board units, in the opinion of the Board, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

If you do not attend the public meeting but wish to be notified of the adoption of the proposed amendment to the Zoning By-law with respect to this application, you are required to make a written request to Carolyn Clark, Town Clerk and such request should include the name and address to which such notice should be sent.

Send this 15th Day of October, 2012.

Carolyn Clark, Town Clerk

Richard R.Brady, Director of Community and Development Services

TOWN OF FORT ERIE

1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, ON, L2A 2S6

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT - PROPOSED SPECIFIC HOUSEKEEPING CHANGES

DATE: MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 2013 • TIME: 6:00 p.m.

LOCATION: COUNCIL CHAMBERS • TOWN HALL • 1 MUNICIPAL CENTRE DRIVE, FORT ERIE

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

The Town of Fort Erie is initiating housekeeping Official Plan amendments to align certain site specific Official Plan designations with previous approvals and/or existing zoning or existing use of land. Other amendments are being initiated to improve and clarify existing policies, or involve minor refinements to reflect heritage mapping. The subject Official Plan amendments are being proposed in concert with housekeeping zoning amendments to bring the Town's Zoning By-law in conformity with the Official Plan. These proposed housekeeping amendments are referred to collectively as Official Plan Amendment No. 10.

The proposed amendments are described more specifically below.

HAVE YOUR SAY

Input on the proposed amendments is encouraged. You can provide input by speaking at the scheduled public meeting. You do not have to register in advance to speak at the public meeting.

Written submissions should be made on or before January 14, 2013. Written comments should be directed to:

Dave Heyworth, MCIP, RPP
Manager-Land Use Policy
Town of Fort Erie, 1 Municipal Centre Drive,
Fort Erie, Ontario, L2A 2S6
Or by e-mailing your comments to:
DHeyworth@town.forterie.on.ca

SPECIFICS ON PROPOSED OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENTS

The proposed amendments are as follows:

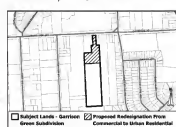
I. The vacant Niagara Parks Commission lands north of Dominion Rd., west of Lakeshore Road are proposed to be redesignated from Urban Residential to Open Space to better reflect the existing park use.



II. The portion of the Town owned Shagbark Park situated within the urban area boundary is proposed to be redesignated from Institutional to Open Space to better reflect the existing park use.



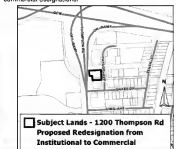
III. A portion of the lands of the Garrison Green Subdivision located on the south side of the Garrison Rd., east of Arthur Street are proposed to be redesignated from Commercial to Urban Residential to reflect the existing zoning and site specific amendments to the previous Official Plan.



IV. The lands associated with 33 Princess Street are proposed to be redesignated from Commercial to Urban Residential to reflect the existing zoning and previous approval of Official Plan Amendment No. 3.



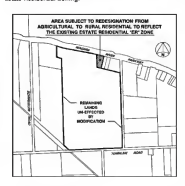
V. The lands of the former Police Station situated at 122 Thompson Road owned by the Region are proposed to be redesignated from Institutional to Commercial, given the building is no longer used for police services and the proposed designation is compatible with existing neighbouring commercial designations.



VI. Policy 4.14.1 of the Official Plan relates to lands designated as Urban Entertainment Centre illustrated on the map below. Currently the designation permits various uses ancillary to the predominant use being a horse race track, equine centre and approved gaming facilities. The amendment will propose to have the predominant uses and ancillary uses listed all as permitted with no differentiation, as well as other minor permitted use refinements. Any proposed residential uses will still have to be an ancillary use, however, Policy 4.14.1 will remain to require a Comprehensive Development Plan that will assist towards controlling the ultimate land uses and arrangement of those uses.



VII. A small portion of the large parcel of land situated north of Townline Road, south of the Niagara River Parkway and west of the Beam Road Allowance is proposed to be redesignated from Agriculture to Rural Residential to reflect the existing Estate Residential zoning.



VIII. Environmental Mapping

The Town is undergoing some minor administrative mapping refinements to Schedule A of the Official Plan to ensure the Environmental Protection Area (EPA) Designation matches the Provincially Significant Wetlands on Schedule C and Hazard Lands Classification on Schedule C-1. In these cases the minor changes constitute a minor reduction in the EPA designated. The change will result in the application of the adjacent design.

radiation with the Environmental Conservation Area (ECA) (Overlay to reflect the wooded and vegetated areas, similar to other similar areas in the Town. These proposed mapping changes can be viewed on the Town's website identified in this notice.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information, please contact Dave Heyworth, MCIP RPP at (905) 871-1600 ext. 2504 or visit the Community and Development Services counter at Town Hall between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Information on the proposed Housekeeping Official Plan Amendments can be obtained by visiting the Town's website at: www.forterie.ca and clicking on the Red Zoning and Official Plan Labels at the right hand side of the homepage.

An Information Report will be available at Town Hall or as part of the on-line meeting Agenda package on the Thursday prior to the scheduled Public Meeting date. Town Council has not made a decision on this proposed Amendment. A Recommendation Report will be prepared by Community and Development Services staff for consideration by Council at a subsequent meeting, after the Public Meeting.

The Town of Fort Erie is the approval authority for these proposed Official Plan Amendments, known collectively as Official Plan Amendment No. 10. If you seek to appeal a Town decision to approve the Amendment No. 10 to the Ontario Municipal Board, any such appeal is required to be filed with the Town Clerk as per below:

Ms. Carolyn Kett, Town Clerk,
1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, Ontario
L2A 2S6

LLEGAL NOTICE

A person, or public body, does not make oral submissions at a public meeting, or make written submissions to the Town of Fort Erie before the proposed Official Plan amendment is approved, the person or public body, is not entitled to appeal the decision of the approval authority to the Ontario Municipal Board.

If a person, or public body, does not make oral submissions at a public meeting, or make written submissions to the Town of Fort Erie before the proposed Official Plan amendment is approved, the person, or public body, may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Municipal Board unless, in the opinion of the Board, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

If you wish to be notified of Town Council's decision on the approval of the proposed Official Plan Amendment, you must make a written request to the Town Clerk.

To request a written notice of approval of the proposed Official Plan Amendment, please send a request to Ms. Carolyn Kett, Town Clerk, 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, Ontario, L2A 2S6. Any such request should include the name and address to which such notice should be sent.

Dated this 15th day of December, 2012:

Carolyn Kett,
Town Clerk

Richard Brady, M.A., MCIP,
RPP Director, Community and Development Services

THE TOWN OF FORT ERIE

1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, ON, L2A 2S6

(905) 871-1600 • Fax (905) 871-4022 • www.forterie.on.ca

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT TO PERMIT ACCESSORY
APARTMENTS WITHIN AGRICULTURAL,
RURAL AND RURAL RESIDENTIAL DESIGNATIONS

DATE: MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 2013 • TIME: 6:00 p.m.

LOCATION: COUNCIL CHAMBERS

TOWN HALL, 1 MUNICIPAL CENTRE DRIVE, FORT ERIE

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

The Town of Fort Erie is initiating housekeeping Official Plan amendments to improve and clarify existing policies and or match policies to existing zoning where it makes sense to do so. The subject Official Plan amendment is being processed in concert with housekeeping zoning amendments to bring the Town's Zoning By-law in to conformity with the Official Plan. This proposed housekeeping amendment is referred to as Official Plan Amendment No. 11.

The proposed amendment is described more specifically below.

Policies Related To Accessory Apartments Within Dwellings in Agricultural, Rural and Rural Residential designations.

Policy 4.7.4.1 IV of the Official Plan, which provides policy direction for accessory apartments within dwellings, is under the Urban Residential section of the Official Plan. The amendment proposes to amend other sections of the Official Plan to allow accessory apartments in dwellings in agricultural rural and rural residential areas, subject to the same policy direction with the addition of a policy to require regional approval for a sustainable private sewage disposal system.

HAVE YOUR SAY

input on the proposed amendment is encouraged. You can provide input by speaking at the scheduled public meeting. You do not have to register in advance to speak at the public meeting.

Written submissions should be made on or before January 14, 2013. Written comments should be directed to:

Dave Heyworth, MCIP
Manager-Land Use Policy
Town of Fort Erie,
1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, Ontario
L2A 2S6

Or by e-mailing your comments to: DHeyworth@town.forterie.on.ca

MORE INFORMATION

For more information, please contact Dave Heyworth, MCIP PPP at (905) 871-1600 ext. 2504 or visit the Community and Development Services counter at Town Hall between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Information on the proposed Housekeeping Official Plan Amendments can be obtained by visiting the Town's website at: www.forterie.ca and clicking on the Red Zoning and Official Plan Label at the right-hand side of the Homepage.

An Information Report will be available at Town Hall or as part of the on-line meeting Agenda package on the Thursday prior to the scheduled Public Meeting date. Town Council has not made a decision on this proposed Amendment. A Recommendation Report will be prepared by Community and Development Services staff for consideration by Council at a subsequent meeting, after the Public Meeting.

Niagara Region is the approval authority for this proposed Official Plan Amendment No.11. Should the Town of Fort Erie adopt the Official Plan Amendment it will be forwarded to the Region for approval. If you seek to appeal a Regional decision to approve the Amendment No.11 to the Ontario Municipal Board, an appeal notice is required to be filed with the Regional Details on filing an appeal will be provided in the Town's Notice following a decision on adoption.

LEGAL NOTICE

If a person, or public body, does not make oral submissions at a public meeting, or make written submissions to the Town of Fort Erie before the proposed Official Plan amendment is adopted, the person, or public body, is not entitled to appeal the decision of the approval authority to the Ontario Municipal Board.

If a person, or public body, does not make oral submissions at a public meeting, or make written submissions to the Town of Fort Erie before the proposed Official Plan amendment is adopted, the person, or public body, may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Municipal Board unless, in the opinion of the Board, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

If you wish to be notified of Town Council's decision on the adoption of the proposed Official Plan Amendment, you must make a written request to the Town Clerk.

To request a written notice of adoption of the proposed Official Plan Amendment, please send a request to: Carolyn Kett, Town Clerk, 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, Ontario, L2A 2S6. Any such request should include the name and address to which such notice should be sent.

Dated this 15th day of December, 2012

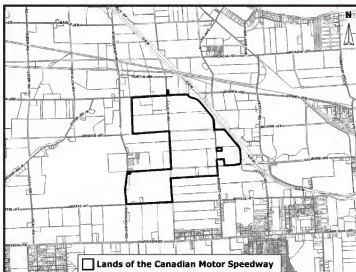
Carolyn Kett, Town Clerk
Town Clerk

Richard Brady, M.A. MCIP, PPP
Director, Community and Development
Services

TOWN OF FORT ERIE NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT

Planning Act, 1990, c. P 13, ss. 17(23), O.Reg. 543/06

APPLICANT: TOWN OF FORT ERIE
FILE #: 356032.007
PROJECT: Amendment to Community Improvement Policies



TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Town of Fort Erie passed By-law No. 132-12 being a By-law to adopt Amendment No.9 to the Official Plan for the Fort Erie Planning Area, on the 10th day of December 2012 under section 22 of the Planning Act.

AND TAKE NOTICE that any person or public body will be entitled to receive notice of the decision of the approval authority if a written request to be notified of the decision is made to the Regional Clerk, Regional Municipality of Niagara, 2201 St. Davids Road, P.O. Box 1042, Thorold, Ontario, L2A 4T7, being the approval authority to which this official plan amendment is being submitted. Anyone requesting notification must include complete contact information.

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

The purpose and effect of proposed Official Plan Amendment No. 9 is to amend the Community Improvement Policies of the Official Plan to permit the lands of the Canadian Motor Speedway (CMS), should the development be approved by the Ontario Municipal Board, to be included within a Community Improvement Project Area and Community Improvement Plan. The proposed amendment recognizes the CMS development as a "strategic location for investment".

INFORMATION WITH RESPECT TO THE AMENDMENT

Information pertaining to the proposed Official Plan Amendment application and the adopted Official Plan Amendment No. 9 is available at the Community and Development Services Department, Town of Fort Erie, 1 Municipal Centre Drive or by visiting the Town's website at www.town.forterie.ca by typing Fort Erie Gateway Economic Zone CIP in the Search Bar or by calling and pasting the following link: <http://www.forterie.ca/WebSite/forteweb.nsf/0/8B03A752B6150CE2B8251A8500E6DE7?OpenDocument>

OTHER APPLICATIONS

The Town of Fort Erie has endorsed in principle the Fort Erie Gateway Economic Zone Community Improvement Plan (CIP) which includes the lands associated with the Canadian Motor Speedway. The proposed CIP provides incentive programs and strategies to facilitate the development of employment lands. Further information on the CIP can be found via the same webpage noted above. The proposed CIP can be formally adopted by Council upon approval of the proposed official plan amendment described in this notice.

DATED AT THE TOWN OF FORT ERIE THIS 15th day of December, 2012.
CAROLYN KETT, TOWN CLERK

THE TOWN OF FORT ERIE

1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, ON, L2A 2S6

(905) 871-1600 • Fax (905) 871-4022 • www.forterie.on.ca

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TOWN OF FORT ERIE NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

REVISED PLAN OF SUBDIVISION AND ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT

APPLICANT/OWNER: LEIGH WHYTE ON BEHALF OF ASHTON HOMES (WESTERN) LTD.

(ALDO VERGILLO)

APPLICATIONS: 350308-0059 & 350309-0348

DATE: January 14, 2013
TIME: 6:00 PM
LOCATION: TOWN HALL,
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

LOCATION OF SUBJECT LANDS

PROPOSED CHANGE

Draft Plan Approval and a Zoning By-law Amendment were granted for the Spears Road Estates Subdivision located on the west side of Spears Road and north of Garrison Road to permit the development of 40 single detached dwellings, a public park and a stormwater management pond in July 2006. A public meeting was held on February 2, 2004. The applicant submitted a revised Draft Plan associated application for a Zoning By-law Amendment in May 2012 and a Public Meeting was held on July 9, 2012.

To address comments received on the May 2012 Draft Plan, the applicant amended to the Draft Plan and Zoning Amendment Application. The Draft Plan that is subject to this public meeting includes a revised location for the stormwater management pond and associated Open Space Zone and a reconfiguration of the number and location of residential units. The revised Draft Plan of Subdivision includes 30 single detached dwellings, 16 townhouse units and 8 semi-detached dwellings.

The Zoning By-law Amendment proposes to change the zoning from Residential 2 R2-360 (H) Zone to an R2 Zone to permit the construction of 4 single detached dwellings and from Residential 2 R2 (H) to Residential Medium Density 2 RMZ Zone to permit the construction of 16 townhouse dwellings and 8 semi-detached dwellings. The applicant is requesting that the property located at 1094 Garrison Road and the southwest portion of the draft approved subdivision be rezoned from R2 to Neighbourhood Development NB Zone to Open Space to permit the construction of a stormwater management pond. The applicant is requesting that the south portion of the 1094 Garrison Road be rezoned from Neighbourhood Development NB Zone to Residential Medium Density 2 RMZ Zone to permit residential development on Garrison Road. The applicant is also requesting a reconfiguration of the Open Space OS Zone to align it with the configuration of the parklands in the revised plan.

HAVE YOUR SAY

You may speak at the proposed Plan of Subdivision and Zoning By-law Amendment is welcome and encouraged. You can provide input by speaking at the Public Meeting or by making a written submission to the Town. Please note that unless you do one of the above, you may not be able to appeal the decision later.

WRITTEN SUBMISSION

To provide input in writing, or to request written notice of the Plan of Subdivision and Zoning By-law Amendment, please send a letter to the Town Clerk Carolyn Kirk, 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, Ontario, L2A 2S6.

PLANNING ACT LEGAL NOTICE REQUIREMENTS

This Town of Fort Erie has made a decision regarding this application.

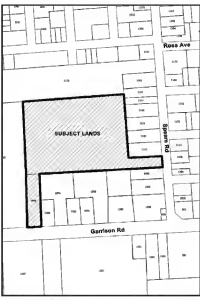
A person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Fort Erie before the By-law is passed, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing or an appeal before the Ontario Municipal Board, unless in the opinion of the Board, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

A person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Fort Erie before the By-law is passed, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing or an appeal before the Ontario Municipal Board, unless in the opinion of the Board, there are reasonable grounds to do so. If you do not attend the public meeting but wish to be notified of the adoption of the Zoning By-law Amendment and revised Draft Plan of Subdivision, you are required to make a written request to the Carolyn Kirk, Town Clerk and such request should include the name and address to which such notice should be sent.

Dated this 15th day of December, 2012

Carolyn Kirk,
Town Clerk

Richard F. Brady, MA, MCIP, RPP,
Director of Community and Development Services



MORE INFORMATION

For further information please contact Matt Kerrahan, Senior Development Planner at (905) 871-1600 extension 2507. A copy of the report will be available to the public on January 11th, 2013. The report will be available in the Council agenda portion of the Towns Web Site: www.townoferie.on.ca or from the Community and Development Services Department.

TOWN OF FORT ERIE NOTICE OF COMPLETE APPLICATION AND PUBLIC MEETING

OFFICIAL PLAN AND ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT

209-215 RIDGE ROAD NORTH

OWNER: JASON PIZZICAROLA

APPLICATIONS: 350308-0059 & 350309-0348

DATE: January 14, 2013
TIME: 6:00 PM
LOCATION: TOWN HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS

LOCATION OF SUBJECT LANDS

PROPOSED CHANGE

Applications have been received for an Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendment for the lands located at 209-215 Ridge Road North. The application is for the operation of a "nano brewery" and other site specific commercial uses within the existing building as well as the establishment of an outdoor patio associated with an existing establishment on the east side of the building.

The property is designated Institutional and Commercial in the Official Plan. The Town's Zoning By-law 129-90 designates the site as Institutional (I) Zone and General Commercial (C2) Zone. The Applicant is requesting an Official Plan Amendment to a Site Specific Commercial Zone for the entire property to permit a brewery and associated uses. The applicant is requesting an associated Zoning By-law amendment to a site specific General Commercial (C2) zone for the entire property to permit the brewery and associated uses. Relat to a number of the zoning regulations for the General Commercial (C2) Zone is requested to recognize existing deficiencies in setbacks and landscape strips. Relat is also being sought for a number of regulations that will not be met with the introduction of proposed uses including the minimum number of parking spaces and the setback from the residential lots and the proposed outdoor patio, which will provide entertainment. A limitation on the use of the proposed nano-brewery is also proposed.

HAVE YOUR SAY

Input on the proposed Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendment is welcome and encouraged. You can provide input by speaking at the Public Meeting or by making a written submission to the Town. Please note that unless you do one of the above, you may not be able to appeal the decision later.

WRITTEN SUBMISSION

To provide input in writing, or to request written notice of the decision of the Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendment, please send a letter to the Town Clerk Carolyn Kirk, 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, Ontario, L2A 2S6.

PLANNING ACT LEGAL NOTICE REQUIREMENTS

The Town of Fort Erie has not yet made a decision regarding this application.

After considering any written comments and the comments from the public meeting, a Recommendation Report will be prepared for a future Council-in-Committee meeting.

A person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Fort Erie in respect of the proposed Official Plan and Zoning By-law amendments before the approval authority gives or refuses to give approval to the Official Plan Amendment or before the By-law is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the Town of Fort Erie to the Ontario Municipal Board.

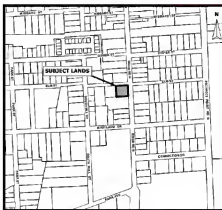
A person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Fort Erie in respect of the proposed Official Plan and Zoning By-law amendments before the approval authority gives or refuses to give approval to the Official Plan Amendment or before the By-law is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the Town of Fort Erie to the Ontario Municipal Board, unless in the opinion of the Board, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

If you do not attend the public meeting but wish to be notified of the adoption of the Official Plan Amendment or Zoning By-law Amendment, you are required to make a written request to the Carolyn Kirk, Town Clerk and such request should include the name and address to which such notice should be sent.

Dated this 15th day of December, 2012

Carolyn Kirk,
Town Clerk

Richard F. Brady, MA, MCIP, RPP,
Director of Community and Development Services



MORE INFORMATION

For further information please contact Matt Kerrahan, Senior Development Planner at (905) 871-1600 extension 2507. A copy of the Information Report will be available to the public on January 11th, 2013. The information report will be available in the Council agenda portion of the Town's Web Site: www.townoferie.on.ca or from the Community and Development Services Department.

Canadians have been a part of the Bills experience for decades

Kris Dubé
Editor

The Buffalo Bills are coming to Canada on Sunday, but this isn't the only opportunity for National Football League (NFL) fans from the northern side of the border to be a part of the experience.

For decades, Canadians have been flocking to Orchard Park, N.Y. for games at the Ralph Wilson Stadium, formerly known as Rich Stadium.

Scott Berchtold, senior vice-president of communications for the Buffalo Bills, said the amount of fans from Southern Ontario and the Greater Toronto Area has increased in the last five years.

Including season ticket holders, group sales and individual tickets about ten per cent of the crowd on any given Sunday were Canadians, five years ago.

This has developed into over 15 per cent of fans at the Ralph Wilson Stadium being from Canada during home games.

He attributes this to the Bills' partnership with Rogers Communications to give one game annually in Toronto.

This Sunday, the Bills will face the Seattle Seahawks.

Mary Owen, the Bills' executive vice-president of strategic planning, said having such a loyal fan base from across the border is fully embraced by the organization. She said it also speaks volumes about how both nations work so well with one another.

"Buffalo and Southern Ontario continue to work together bilaterally to cultivate business, entertainment and cultural relationships. The Bills truly appreciate the support we receive from across the border and will contin-

ue to reach out to our Canadian fans to include them in all that we do," said Owen.

The Buffalo and Fort Erie Public Bridge Authority (PBA)'s director of communications Matt Davison said when the Bills are at home, Canadians crossing at the Peace Bridge usually equates to about 20 per cent of the entire traffic volume in one day. About 2,000 vehicles cross the bridge for the purpose of attending a game.

He also said that about 60 to 90 bus trips head through Fort Erie on their way to Bills games and he attributes this to fans wanting to travel together and share the experience of an NFL game in large groups, plus fans being more cautious of the risks of drinking and driving.

"Those factors are leading to an increase of buses, the numbers are up," said Davison.

The PBA also staffs extra toll and traffic employees on game days, a measure referred to as 'All Hands on Deck.'

"It's something we take

very seriously and are ready for," said Davison.

Fort Erie mayor Doug Martin has been a season ticket holder since 1976 and received his thirty year pin last year, as he claims the Bills didn't start keeping track of fan volumes until 1981.

Martin said when he is in a situation of promoting Greater Fort Erie and Niagara, its close proximity to numerous professional sports teams is always something he brings up, whether it's football, baseball or hockey that people are into... they have many choices.

"That's definitely one of the selling points we have," said Martin.

For about 20 years, Martin and his friends have been tail-gating and enjoying some of his homemade Jambalaya and other dishes in the yard of a small house near the stadium, a gathering spot for mostly people from Niagara Falls and Fort Erie.

See Page 24



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Mike MacDonald, left, Tyler Hindle, Alexis MacDonald, Nathan Hindle and Austin Douglas in front of Ralph Wilson Stadium, before last Sunday's game between the Buffalo Bills and St. Louis Rams.



ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION

BRANCH 71, FORT ERIE

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Saturday December 22nd, 2012

Bring your favorite dish to share

and enjoy the holiday season

Toonie Draw - 4pm

Meat Draw - 4:30pm

Holiday Basket Draw - 5pm

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THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF FORT ERIE TENDER FOR RIDGEWAY VILLAGE SQUARE CONTRACT NO. IS.11RDGW

The Town of Fort Erie is requesting Bids from qualified and experienced Contractors to undertake the construction of a new community park to be known as the "Ridgeway Village Square".
Sealed tenders clearly marked as to contract will be received by Carolyn J. Kest, Town Clerk, Municipal Centre, Fort Erie, Ontario until 2:00 p.m. LOCAL TIME on:

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2013

Commencing immediately afterwards on the above date, tenders will be opened publicly at the Fort Erie Town Hall Meeting Room No. 3.
Construction will consist of the following primary elements:

- i. An Open Air Pavillion (all grade);
- ii. Ground-Level, Flow-Through Splash Pad (to be constructed by others);
- iii. A number of Decorative Concrete Surface Treatments; and
- iv. Electrical Site Servicing and Lighting.

The successful Contractor will have to sub-contract specialty works including but not limited to carpentry, electrical and civil trades, as required.

All Town of Fort Erie formal competitive bid opportunities, issued by the Purchasing Services Division, are posted on Bldginfo.com and organized by commodity.

If a hard copy is required, the documents will be picked up at the Town Hall, Engineering Division, 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, commencing **Friday, December 21, 2012** on payment of twenty-eight dollars and twenty-five cents (\$28.25) non-refundable cash or cheque payable to the Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie.

Tender Documents may also be viewed at the Niagara Construction Association, 34 Scott Street, St. Catharines, Ontario, upon their release.

The Corporation reserves the right to reject any and all tenders and the lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Wayne Redekop and NDP Justice critic Jagmeet Singh in front of the courthouse on Jarvis Street recently.

NDP critic visits courthouse

Kris Dubé
Editor

The Ontario New Democratic Party (NDP)'s justice critic made a stop in Fort Erie recently, to learn more about plans for the Ontario Court of Justice, on Jarvis Street.

The local courthouse has cut the amount of days it offers services to one day a month, instead of four like it has operated with for so many years, since being built in 1996.

Jagmeet Singh, and NDP member of provincial par-

liament from the Bramalea-Gore-Malton riding read about this issue when representatives from the Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre (FENFC) held a peaceful protest last month.

After meeting with the media, he would be traveling to the FENFC to hear from them.

"I look forward to hearing their concerns," said Singh in front of the courthouse.

He said regardless of individuals' lifestyle, making sure they are able to exercise their right to a fair

“

My goal is to learn about the issues.”

—NDP attorney general
critic Jagmeet Singh

trial and have the means to get there.

"The issue of accessibility is key when it comes to justice," said Singh.

He was also joined by former Fort Erie mayor and Niagara Falls riding NDP candidate in the last provincial election Wayne Redekop.

"It's about accessibility and we feel this facility can be utilized much better than it has been," said Redekop, who is also a practicing lawyer in Greater Fort Erie.

After meeting with Redekop and regional councillor John Teal on the issue, Singh said he is here to listen.

"My goal is to learn about the issues."

Local agency has served for 27 years

From Page 15

Big Brothers Big Sisters will be marking a big anniversary this year with their 100th anniversary nationally.

They have been in Fort Erie for 27 years now. In 27 years, the agency has grown to include a variety of different

programs that serve both boys and girls, including Stepping Stones, which is a program aimed at building and strengthening the social skills and relationships of young people.

The agency serves the South Niagara/Fort Erie area.

In the New Year, they will be announcing a partnership with South Niagara.

'Nothing close to it in Toronto'

From Page 23

"We all know everybody there," said Martin.

Nathan Hindle said that growing up in Fort Erie and living literally 20 minutes from the 'Ralph' is why he is

a Bills fan.

"Now located in Toronto, I still have season tickets and make the trip down on Sundays. It becomes more than just a game, it's an event, with family and friends side by side sharing a passion," said Hindle.

He has attended the games in

Toronto, but says the experience is nothing close to what can be enjoyed at Ralph Wilson Stadium during the regular season.

"There's nothing close to it in Toronto," he said.



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Our Entire Stock Flannelette Plains & Prints Including Christmas 50% off Our Regular Price	Our Entire Stock Arctic Fleece Plains Reg. to \$17.00/m Sale \$6.00/m Prints Reg. to \$20.00/m Sale \$8.00/m
Our Entire Stock Christmas Fabric, Trims, & Decor items 50% off Our Regular Price	Huge Special Selection Fall & Holiday Fashion Fabrics Buy 1 meter of our regular price Get 2 Meters Free From Same Bolt

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NEXUS Niagara reaches milestone

Kris Dubé
Editor

NEXUS Niagara announced last week that it has enrolled its 100,000th member.

At a press event last Friday, Niagara Falls resident and youth hockey player Seth Hollett and his family were invited to meet with Buffalo Sabres mascot Sabretooth, broadcasting legend Rick Jeanneret and border officials from Canada and the U.S., as the Niagara component of the border program celebrated its 100,00th trusted traveler.

"This is truly a landmark day for the NEXUS program in Western New York and southern Ontario," said Buffalo and Fort Erie Public Bridge Authority general manager Ron Rienas.

"The popularity of this program is

extremely evident, as are the very real benefits of expedited border crossings through trusted travel membership," said Rienas.

Niagara Falls Bridge Commission general manager Lew Holloway said there is no question that NEXUS usage translates into time-savings and more reliability at the border.

"And from an enrollment perspective, youth hockey families are an excellent example of the type of frequent travelers that can really benefit from this program. That's why I'm pleased to have Seth Hollett help us commemorate

this significant milestone," he said.

According to border traffic data compiled between January and October 2012, overall NEXUS trips in the region have increased to nearly 1.25 million crossings, accounting for around 12 per cent of overall traffic at the area's four international bridges.

In that time-span, NEXUS usage at the Peace Bridge grew to roughly 650,000 conveyances, representing more than 16 per cent of overall crossings at the span.

The NEXUS-only Whitpool Bridge serviced over 475,000 vehicles, while tallies at the Lewiston-Queenston and Rainbow Bridges totaled 60,000 and 55,000 conveyances, respectively.

Gift of Love



KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Local business people Rob Carver, Scott Baughn, Scott Maskell, Katie Miller and Ashley Gibson pooled together recently to purchase several toys that were later donated to the Gift of Love, a program offered by the Fort Erie Kinsmen Club and the Salvation Army. Toy donations are still being accepted until Dec. 20 and can be arranged by contacting Rick Shular at (905) 871-5579.

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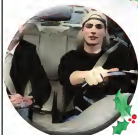
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Parkes getting gritty

Kris Dubé
Editor

A gritty and more physical style of play is what Trevor Parkes says he is focusing on to make a name for himself in the American Hockey League (AHL).

The 21-year-old from Fort Erie is in his second season with the Grand Rapids Griffins, a farm club for the National Hockey League (NHL)'s Detroit Red Wings.

The 6'2" left winger, who spent two seasons with the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League's Montreal Juniors, was invited to the Red Wings' camp in 2011, after not being

selected in the NHL's entry draft.

He was also invited to the Dallas Stars' camp, but elected to try his chances in the Motor City, with an original six team.

Parkes has seen his assigned role "become focused on being a crucial part of the Griffins' penalty kill unit. When his team is short-handed, he is on the ice for more than 16 per cent of the time, a lot more than the average for other players.

"As a second year player, I have a bigger role on the team and have been getting a lot more minutes," said Parkes in a phone interview

this week.
"I feel like a bigger asset to the team."

Parkes has three goals and three assists in 18 games and one of the times he was able to find the back of the net, his team was short-handed.

Although it's always nice to see your name on the score sheet, he says his style of play doesn't label him as the type that racks up a lot of points. It's about winning battles in the corners and keeping the puck in the offensive zone.

See Page 27



Trevor Parkes in action with the American Hockey League's Grand Rapids Griffins.

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and fees.
HST extra.



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Lost and Found

LOST Walker, December 15 walked home from Dolmar, on Corporation and Berlie to Central Avenue. If found please call 289-350-8007

Cats

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Route: 4006S - Crystal Beach - 37 papers (Fleabstock, Lakewood, Smalls, Westwood)

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All claims against the Estate of DAVID KEWLEY WHORRALL, late of the Town of Fort Erie, in the Regional Municipality of Niagara, who died on or about the 17th day of November, 2012, must be filed with the undersigned personal representative on or before February 8th, 2013, thereafter, the undersigned will distribute the assets of the said Estate, having regard only to the claims then filed.

DATED at Fort Erie, this 8th day of December, 2012

Gregory David Whorrall, Estate Trustee of the Estate of David Kewley Whorrall by his solicitor, GERALD F. RUCH 43 Jarvis Street, P.O. Box 8, FORT ERIE, Ontario L2A 5M6

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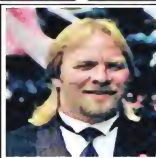
In Memoriams

In Memoriams

COTTER, Paul - Paul passed at his home on December 11th 2012 in his 52nd year. Proud father of Lisa Saunders, Emily Rawcliffe and Rasmie Cotter-Rawcliffe. Cherished grandfather of Matthew, Madison, Jordyn and Chase. Loving son of John. Sadly missed brother of Sue Cashion, John Henry Cotter, Richard Cotter, Cheryl Latremouille, Alan Cotter and Robert Cotter. Also survived by his many nieces and nephews, his large extended family and many friends. Predeceased by his mother Pauline, sister Maxine Gorynes and brother Ronald Cotter. **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES**, 1105 Benger Ave., Fort Erie entrusted with arrangements. The family will receive friends on Monday December 17th from 10 am until the time of funeral services to be conducted in the Chapel at noon. Cremation will follow. A fund to benefit the children will be established. Contributions would be appreciated. Information will be available at the funeral.



In loving memory of my dear granddaughter
Kelsey Lana Hill
 who passed away December 10th, 2011
 A precious one from us is gone
 A voice we missed is stilled
 A place is vacant in our home
 Which never can be filled.
 Sadly missed by Granma Lois



NAPIER, Bradley -
 September 26th to December 21st 2010
 It has been the longest 2 years of our lives...
 Missing you and missing you in our daily life...
 You were our inspiration.
 We hope you know how much you are missed.
 Not only by us but by so many others...
 Some family, some friends and even
 some who hardly knew you.
 You touched so many lives.
 Your laughter made everyone happy.
 Your kindness to others was unending.
 Your warm hugs brought such comfort.
 You now leave a gaping hole.
 We know that you will watch over him.
 Just as you do all the others...
 Till we meet again.
 Love forever Mom Dad Family xxxxxx



PEPPER, THOMAS W. - In loving memory of a beloved Husband, Father & Papa who passed away one year ago on December 14th, 2011

They say it's a beautiful journey
 From this old world to the new
 Someday we'll make that journey
 Which will lead us straight to you
 And when we reach that garden
 In which there is no pain
 We'll put our arms around you
 And never part again

- Always in our thoughts, forever in our hearts
 From your loving Wife, Children and Grandchildren

In Memoriams

In Memoriams



In Memory Loving Of
Olive Merle Hill
 A Precious Mother, Grandmother and
 Great-Grandmother who passed away
 December 13, 2012.
 We cannot have the good old days back,
 When we were all together,
 And when old times we do recall,
 That's when we miss Mom most of all.
 Although we smile and make no fuss,
 No one loved her more than us.
 Sadly missed by
 Verna & Wayne Hill & Family
 Marion Henry & Family



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Anne Marie (Cotton) Lambert
 April 24, 1971 - December 10, 2009

In our hearts she is fondly remembered.
 Sweet memories cling to her name,
 Those who loved her in life,
 Still love her in death just the same.
 Love Mom, Jackson & Family

FRANK LAFRANCA
 April 26, 1932 - December 13, 2008
 I've been gone now for 4 whole years.
 And in that time,
 You have only wished you were still here.
 You were a husband, father, grandfather
 - but so much more.
 You are the man that I will always adore.
 So in your new life above,
 Please know this dear,
 I will always treasure the time that you
 were here...
 Love Forever, Anna and Family



Special In Memoriams



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 with an In Memoriam in the Fort Erie Times on Saturday, December 22nd.
 For your convenience Memorial Verses are available at our office. Be sure to have your copy and photo (if desired) to the Times no later than Tuesday, December 18 at 3:00 p.m.
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